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Account of the late Mr JOHN HENDERSON.

MR JOHN HENDERSON was of a family originally Scotch, ſettled at Fordell, a town in the north of Scotland. He was deſcended in a right line from the famous Alexander Henderſon, whoſe name frequently occurs in the Engliſh hiſtory, on account of his conference with King Charles I. in the Iſle of Wight. His grandfather was a Quaker, and a very warm adherent to the celebrated Mr Anneſley, in his ſuit with Lord Angleſea, in ſupporting which he ſpent a conſiderable ſum of money. His father was an Iriſh factor in London, and reſided in Goldſmith-ſtreet, at the time of the birth of this ſon, who was baptiſed March 8. 1746 7. Mr Henderſon, the father, lived but one year after his ſon's birth, and left his widow and two children, both ſons, with a very ſlender proviſion. The care and attention of their mother in ſome meaſure made up for the loſs of their father. Of his mother's watchful care and aſſiduity Mr Henderſon always ſpoke in terms of the moſt grateful acknowledgement. Upon every occaſion he thought himſelf happy in an opportunity of remembering his obligations to her; and in every ſituation of his life was ſolicitous to repay the affection ſhe had ſhewn to him, and to render her life happy by every means in his power. At the age of two years, he removed with his mother to Newport Pagnel, in Buckinghamſhire, where he continued ten years, and

and afterwards went to a boarding-ſchool, kept by Dr Stirling, at Hemel Hempſtead, where he reſided little more than twelve months. From thence he returned to London; and having ſhewn a propenſity to drawing, he was placed for a ſhort time as a pupil to Mr Fournier *, a very extraordinary character, who, with great talents, ſeems to have poſſeſſed too little prudence to preſerve himſelf from diſtreſs and ridicule. While he remained with Fournier, he made a drawing, which was exhibited at the Society of Arts and Sciences, and obtained a premium, about the year 1767. With a perſon of Fournier's habits, it is not at all ſurpriſing that Mr Henderſon ſhould not continue long. On quitting him, he went to reſide with Mr Cripp, a ſilverſmith, a near relation, of conſiderable buſineſs in St James's ſtreet, with whom it was intended he ſhould be connected; but the death of that gentleman put an end to this ſcheme; and it is believed, that from henceforward Henderſon bent his attention entirely to the ſtage.

In the very early part of his life, Mr Henderſon's mother put into his hands a volume of Shakeſpeare, which he peruſed ſo often, and with ſo much delight, that he became inſpired with a paſſion for repreſenting on the ſtage characters which he read with ſo much ſatisfaction. His reception into the theatre met with many and very extraordinary impediments. So early as the year 1768, he got himſelf introduced to Mr G. Garrick, who, on hearing him rehearſe, gave it as his opinion, that Mr Henderſon's voice was ſo feeble, that he could not poſſibly convey articulate ſounds to the audience of any theatre; and it cannot be denied, that there was then ſome ground for the obſervation, as his friends were apprehenſive that he was in danger of falling into a conſumptive habit.

Not diſcouraged by this repulſe, he continued to purſue his favourite object, though with little proſpect of ſucceſs. In a few years his health became more eſtabliſhed; and having become acquainted with Mr Becket the bookſeller, he procured himſelf to be introduced to Mr Garrick. At this gentleman's levee he attended for a great length of time, both noticed and neglected, till at laſt he grew weary of ſo irkſome a ſtate of dependence, and reſolved to attempt, by other means, to exhibit himſelf before the public. Still, however, he experienced the mortification of being rejected in every offer. In 1770 he applied to Mrs Philippina Burton, a lady who was about to produce a comedy of her own writing at the Hay-market, but was not received. He offered himſelf to Mr Colman, who would not condeſcend even to hear him; and, if we are not miſinformed, he made his firſt eſſay in public by delivering Mr Garrick's ode on the Jubilee, in a room at Iſlington, for the benefit of one of the inferior retainers of the theatre.

At length, after more than two years attendance, Mr Garrick was prevailed upon to hear him rehearſe; but the opinion which this trial produced, was by no means favourable. The manager declared, that his voice was not ſufficiently melodious or clear, nor his pronunciation articulate enough; or, to make uſe of his own terms, "that he had in his mouth too much wool or worſted, which he much abſolutely get rid of before he would be fit for Drury-Lane ſtage." However, not to diſcourage him entirely, he furniſhed him with a letter to Mr Palmer, the manager of the Bath company, who, on this recommendation, engaged him at a ſalary of one guinea a-week.

On his arrival at Bath he aſſumed the name of Courtney, and his firſt appearance on the ſtage there was on the 6th of October 1772, in the character of Hamlet. The applauſe he met with was very great. At this juncture Mr Giffard, under whoſe management Mr Garrick had made his firſt eſſay in London, was at Bath, and a ſpectator of our young actor's performance. This veteran of the theatre immediately introduced himſelf to Mr Henderſon, and was the firſt perſon who declared decidedly in his favour. He recommended him to perſevere ſteadily in the profeſſion he had adopted, and aſ-

ſured

* Fournier was perhaps as extraordinary a character as this age has known. In 1764 he publiſhed, in 4to. the Theory and Practice of Perſpective, upon the principles of Brook Taylor, with moveable ſchemes, and 50 plates. Some of theſe, particularly the landſcapes, were etched by Mr Henderſon. Fournier was ſo eccentric a being, that he was perpetually changing his profeſſion, and his variations were ſo numerous, that all of them could not be recollected. He was, however, remembered to have been a painter, an engraver, a modeller in wax, a carver, a muſician, a teacher of drawing, and once both the maſter of a chandler's ſhop and the ſeller of alamode beef. At the time of his death he was a button-maker.

ſured him, that he had no doubt he would in time become a great performer. So warmly did the old man intereſt himſelf, that being about to return to London, he deſired Mr Henderſon to devote a morning to him on the ſtage, that he might give his judgement on his manner of playing ſome characters. After being employed in this manner for ſeveral hours, he repeated his aſſurance of ſucceſs, and ſoon after returned to Ealing, where he died in a few days. After performing Hamlet twice, Mr Henderſon repeated Mr Garrick's ode, and repreſented in the courſe of the ſeaſon the following characters: Richard III. Benedick, Macbeth, Capt. Bobadil, Bayes, Don Felix, the Earl of Eſſex, Hotſpur, Fribble, Lear, Haſtings, Alonzo, and Alzuma. After he had repeatedly played the firſt nine characters, and found his reputation was fixed on a firm baſis, he reſumed his real name, and ſpoke an addreſs to the town on the occaſion on the 22d of December. He performed in the play or farce almoſt every night during the ſeaſon, and had the ſatisfaction of continuing to increaſe in fame every time that he appeared.

From the period of his going to Bath he correſponded with Mr Garrick, who gave him his advice frequently and with great cordiality. In one of his letters he warned Mr Henderſon not to be too much elated with ſucceſs, and inſtructed him how he might improve his time to the beſt advantage. He admoniſhed him to be cautious of his company, and to avoid the rocks which many of the *dramatis perſonæ* had ſplit upon, by miſpending their time, and acquiring a habit of idleneſs and drinking among the vain pretenders to theatrical merit. He likewiſe adviſed him to peruſe other books beſides plays, and to acquire ſuch farther knowledge as might add to his importance in life. Though a diſagreement afterwards aroſe between them, Mr Henderſon always ſpoke of this letter with gratitude. He adopted the ſcheme of life pointed out by Mr Garrick, and immediately retired from all company to apply himſelf cloſely to ſtudy: and from thenceforward diſſipation never had power enough to ſeduce him from the great object of his attention.

At the cloſe of the Bath ſeaſon, he viſited his friends in London, and paſſed the remainder of the ſummer in the metropolis, entirely diſengaged from all theatrical employment. In the autumn he returned to his ſtation at Bath, and during that year, added the characters of Pierre, Don John, Comus, Othello, Archer, Ranger, Sir John Brute, Belville in the School for Wives, Henry II. Beverly in the Man of Buſineſs, and Zanga, to thoſe he had already repreſented. By this time the chief managers of the London theatres had ſeen his performances on the ſtage, and knew the reputation he had acquired; but, ſteady to the opinions they had originally entertained, they could not be prevailed upon to think him worthy of being received into their ſervice. During the courſe of this ſummer, application was made both to Mr Garrick and Mr Foote to engage him, but without effect. In the autumn of 1774, he was obliged again to reſume his former ſituation at Bath.

But though the London managers were inſenſible to the merit of Mr Henderſon, he was encouraged by the ſentiments of ſeveral very competent judges, who cheered him with their applauſe, and ſupported him by their approbation. Paul Whitehead, Mr Gainſborough, and Mr Beard, were particularly attentive to him. His new characters this year were principally Ford, Poſthumus, Shylock, Lorenzo in the Spaniſh Fryar, Sciolto, and Morcar in Matilda. The uninterrupted and undiminiſhed praiſes with which he was honoured both by individuals and by the public, had made him earneſtly deſire the opportunity of exhibiting his talents to a London audience; and to accompliſh this point, in December 1774 he wrote to Mr Garrick, and propoſed at his own riſk and expence to act on Drury-Lane ſtage, in the characters of Hamlet and Shylock, and to be determined by the voice of the public reſpecting the event of his good or ill ſucceſs. At this juncture, Mr Henderſon had obtained ſo great a reputation at Bath, and had acquired ſo many friends, that Mr Garrick thought it would be no longer prudent to neglect the overtures made him. He anſwered Mr Taylor of Bath, through whoſe means the propoſal came, that he thought it would not be advantageous to Mr Henderſon himſelf: he could not ſuppoſe that his playing two characters would give the public a proper idea of his merit; as an actor of ſenſibility, ſuch a ſlender and partial exhibition of his talents might, from his own too great feelings, injure his repreſentation, and

render him leſs capable of pleaſing the public, who would be called upon to eſtimate his merit. He obſerved alſo, that if Mr Henderſon could have an opportunity to act ten or twelve times, in two or or three different characters, his genius would have fair play. As his well-wither, he ſtrenuouſly proteſted againſt the other ſcheme; but if Mr Henderſon choſe to be with him, he recommended him to fix upon Hamlet, Shylock, Benedick, or any other part he choſe to appear in, the enſuing winter. He thought the former a partial manner of trial, which would be of no ſervice to the manager, and of prejudice to the actor.

In anſwer to Mr Garrick's letter, Mr Henderſon, who ſeemed greatly upon his guard, after thanking him for his anxious apprehenſions in his favour, made a new offer, which was to act the enſuing winter at Drury-Lane theatre the parts of Hamlet, Shylock, Richard, and Lear; with ſuch other characters, in the courſe of the ſeaſon to which he could give a proper finiſhing: but as to theſe, he reſerved a negative voice. In a ſecond and third ſeaſon he propoſed to add four more additional characters each year, and to act ſuch other parts under the ſame reſtriction as already mentioned.

On the receipt of Mr Henderſon's propoſal, Mr Garrick returned an anſwer in terms of anger and reſentment; he reproached him for his attempt to take the management of the theatre out of his hands, and to render him a mere cypher in his own dominions. This indeed was an affront that no actor of the higheſt merit had ever preſumed to offer to him.

In anſwer to this letter, Mr Henderſon wrote, diſclaiming the interpretation which Mr Garrick had put on his propoſal, and declaring he had no wiſh but to be ſubordinate to his employer's directions, provided he did not feel himſelf unequal to the taſk impoſed upon him. By the interference of ſome friends, an attempt was made to reſume the treaty; but Mr Garrick ſeemed not inclined to forgive the ſuppoſed attack upon his authority, and Mr Henderſon, after Mr Garrick had expreſſed his reſentment in ſuch forcible terms, appeared no way ſatisfied that his intentions towards him either were or could be amicable, and therefore grew more indifferent on the ſubject. A ſhort time afterwards, a negotiation was begun with Mr Harris, for an engagement at Covent Garden theatre; but this was broken off by the manager almoſt before any terms were offered.

After theſe ineffectual efforts, and ſo many repulſes, Mr Henderſon appeared to have given up all his ambitious expectations of ſhining in London. He ſoon afterwards entered into an agreement for three years with Mr Palmer, and was content with the applauſe he received at Bath. In the ſummer of 1775 he performed with Mr Reddith at Briſtol, and there was perſuaded, through the accidental diſability of a performer, to attempt the part of Falſtaff; a character which he afterwards repreſented with a degree of excellence unparalleled but by ſome of the moſt ſucceſsful efforts of a Garrick or a Siddons.

In the ſummer of 1776 Mr Henderſon was engaged by Mr Yates to perform at his theatre in Birmingham; and here he had an opportunity of ſhewing his diſcernment of talents, though depreſſed. Mrs Siddons the preceding ſeaſon had performed at Drury Lane the part of Portia twice, Lady Anne in Richard III. once, and a few other characters, but of ſo little conſequence, that ſhe was diſmiſſed at the cloſe of the theatre as entirely uſeleſs. Under theſe circumſtances, ſhe joined Mr Yates's company at Birmingham, and performed there during the ſummer. A very few ſpecimens of her power convinced Mr Henderſon of her value as an actreſs. He immediately wrote to Mr Palmer, recommending her to him in the higheſt terms, and adviſing him to engage her. It happened that the manager had already a perſon in his company with whom he was in articles, and whoſe performance he could not be convinced was inferior to the lady propoſed to him: it was therefore without effect that Mr Henderſon recommended her to Bath. He always, however, aſſerted her ſuperiority over every other actreſs, and foretold her ſucceſs when ſhe returned to London, before ſhe had appeared in any one character.

At length, what neither the wiſhes of the public, of Mr Henderſon, or of his friends, had been able to accompliſh, accident brought about without application. Mr Colman in 1777, having purchaſed the patent of Mr Foote, engaged Mr Henderſon for the ſummer. How advantageous this union was to the manager, is within the remembrance of the majority of our readers. It has been conjectured, that in thirty-four nights per-

performance, no leſs a ſum than 4500l. was taken. The firſt character Mr Henderſon repreſented was Shylock in the Merchant of Venice, June 11. 1777. This was followed by Hamlet, Leon, Falſtaff, Richard III. Don John, Bayes, and Falſtaff in the Merry Wives of Windſor. The avidity of the public filled the Haymarket theatre every night he performed. Even during the heat of ſummer, the houſe was crowded with people of the firſt faſhion and firſt rate abilities. The manager, who derived ſo much advantage from his ſucceſs, gave him a free benefit, which produced him a conſiderable ſum of money; and before the winter commenced, he was engaged by Mr Sheridan for two years at Drury Lane theatre, at a ſalary of 10l. per week, with an indemnification from the penalty of his articles with the manager at Bath.

In the ſummer of 1778, he went to Ireland, and was introduced to moſt of the *literati* of that kingdom. On the 13th of January 1779, he married the lady who is now his widow, and with whom he lived in great domeſtic felicity during the reſt of his life. In the ſummer of 1779, he went again to Ireland, and at the commencement of the winter ſeaſon, removed to Covent Garden, with an increaſed ſtipend. The ſummer of 1780 he paſſed at Liverpool, and that of 1781 was devoted to leiſure and his friends, without any theatrical employment, except that he one night performed Falſtaff at the Haymarket, to ſerve Mr Edwin. The ſummers of 1782 and 1783 were paſſed at Liverpool, and that of 1784 in Scotland, where he was honoured with the notice of Dr Robertſon, and moſt of thoſe who are eminent for rank and talents in that part of the kingdom. During the laſt ſummer, he performed a few nights in Dublin, and while there, was invited to the Caſtle, where he entertained the Duke and Ducheſs of Rutland, and their Court, with reading parts of Triſtram Shandy. In the early part of his life, he was remarkable for delivering the works of Sterne with peculiar force and humour, and was once introduced to that gentleman, who expreſſed himſelf greatly pleaſed with the advantage his performances derived from Mr Henderſon's recitation. In the Lent ſeaſon of 1785, Mr Sheridan and Mr Henderſon united in entertaining the town with reading ſome of the works of our beſt Engliſh writers, and for ſeveral nights together they drew great audiences to Free Maſons Hall. This ſpecies of entertainment would probably have been continued with advantage; but though it may be attempted by other performers, we riſk nothing in predicting that it will not be received with the approbation it met with laſt ſpring.

Before Mr Henderſon's journey to Dublin, he renewed his engagement with Mr Harris for four years to come, and by the mediation of a friend, ſome ſuppoſed grounds of complaint between him and his employer were accommodated, to the mutual ſatisfaction of each party. He was exceedingly zealous in the ſervice of the theatre, and always ready to attend his duty there. In the courſe of the laſt three months of his life, he performed ſeveral nights ſucceſſively, very long and very fatiguing characters, and ſometimes when he would have been with more propriety in his bed. His laſt performance was in the character of Horatius, in the Roman Father, the 3d of November. He was ſoon after ſeized with a fever, which ſeemed to have ſubmitted to medicines; but at a time when his diſorder put on every favourable appearance, he was unexpectedly ſeized with a ſpaſm in the brain, which deprived the public of an excellent performer, his friends of an agreeable companion, and the world of a truly honeſt man. This unfortunate event happened the 25th of November 1785. [vol. 47. p. 572.]

Of Mr Henderſon's character a few words will ſuffice. He was modeſt, unaſſuming, beneficent, candid, and humane, extremely grateful for favours received, and very eager to acknowledge and return obligations. Warmly attached to thoſe for whom he entertained a friendſhip, he was by no means deſirous to cultivate new acquaintance: and againſt ſuch perſons as he entertained a diſlike, he had no affectation of concealing his ſentiments. He ſhone with great luſtre in domeſtic life, and in his family, and amidſt his friends, gave the moſt pleaſing impreſſion. He was in a very exemplary manner a dutiful ſon, an affectionate huſband, a tender father, and a kind maſter. It has been remarked by thoſe who were intimate with him, that he was hardly ever ſeen in a paſſion. He was hoſpitable without parade, and liberal without oſtentation. Though attentive

tive to prudence and œconomy, he never permitted his generoſity to be checked by meanneſs or avarice. He knew the value of money, but conſidered it only as the means to aſſure independence. He poſſeſſed beyond moſt men the talents for pleaſing both the few and the many, and was equally qualified for grave and for convivial ſociety. He was not inſenſible to praiſe, and always declared, that without it no actor or actreſs could exert their abilities. On this account he ſometimes ſhewed no objection to admitting or returning commendations which rather bordered on the *exceſſive*. Perhaps in this circumſtance *only* he exceeded the modeſty of nature. Though without the advantages of a learned education, he was wonderfully acute and logical in his reaſoning. He had read much, particularly of polite literature, of which he judged with great taſte and preciſion. He underſtood French perfectly, and ſpoke it fluently. His poetry, of which he left but little, ſhews, that if he had cultivated his powers, he would have arrived at conſiderable excellence. Of his acting or his reading we ſhall be ſilent, at leaſt on the preſent occaſion; but we cannot but obſerve and regret, that an unlucky ſhyneſs between him and the manager obſtructed the full diſplay of his theatrical talents. This was put an end to juſt before his death, and therefore is the more to be lamented. His judgement of acting was very great, and he was always willing to communicate his inſtruction to young performers. In a profeſſion, which, probably beyond all others, creates envy, and hurries emulation to the confines of jealouſy, it is believed, that he was more acceptable to his brethren, and created leſs of the two qualities we have juſt mentioned, than moſt performers of his rank. He was ſingularly conſcientious in the diſcharge of his duty to his employers and the public. At a time when he was at the height of his reputation, when he had almoſt ſubdued envy, and was in full poſſeſſion of public favour, happy in his connections, eaſy in his circumſtances, and with proſpects before him of the moſt pleaſing kind, he was ſnatched from the world, in a frame of mind which affection would wiſh for in thoſe who, like him, conciliated particular regard. His laſt effuſions were thanks to the Supreme Being on the appearance of his recovery.

Vitæ bene actæ jucundiſſima eſt recordatio.

HINTS to Perſons travelling from Britain into France.

Firſt. There is no ſuch thing to be had in Paris, or any other part of France, as ready-furniſhed lodgings. There are indeed *hotels meublées*, and *chambres garnies*; but neither of theſe correſpond to what is meant in London by ready-furniſhed lodgings. Lodgings of that kind, a ſingle perſon, and ſtill leſs a family, muſt not expect to find.

Secondly. To board in a genteel family is impoſſible. The meaning of the word *genteel* varies with the rank of perſons. Now what is meant is, that no perſon in France will admit as boarder a perſon who holds the ſame rank in Britain which he himſelf holds in France. A perſon of an inferior rank in France will with difficulty, and only with a view to a high board, admit as boarder a perſon of much ſuperior rank.

Thirdly. It is extreme difficult to get into genteel company. By genteel company in France is meant, the company of perſons rich, or at leaſt in eaſy circumſtances, of a reputable family, and who have ſeen the world. Such company is called *bonne compagnie*. As the ladies in France give the *ton*, a young man muſt be uſhered into company by the ladies. Now the ladies in France, at leaſt in Paris, and provincial towns copy after Paris, may be divided into four claſſes. The firſt, in point of antiquity, and therefore they are here named in the firſt place, are the *dames devotes*; the ſecond conſiſts of the *dames* who either have, or profeſs to have, *religion*; the third, of the *dames* who are given to *gallantry*, but a decent kind of gallantry, that produces no eclat; and thoſe ladies, it they are not chaſte, are at leaſt cautious. The fourth conſiſts of ſuch ladies as keep within no bounds, and have, as the French expreſs it, *jette leur bonnet par deſſus leurs têtes*.

A Britiſh ſubject who is introduced by a *dame devote*, muſt take care not to be ſeen in the company of a *dame qui a jette ſon bonnet*, otherwiſe he will never be admitted to his *introductrice*, or her *ſocieté*. The firſt, ſecond, and even third claſs of ladies, frequent one another's company, and therefore a Britiſh gentleman may frequent ſuch ladies and their *ſocieté*. But there is no reconciling the firſt and laſt claſs; and whoever viſits either the one or other muſt never think of uniting them as perſons that he may wait upon, and be received by.

It

It muſt be likewiſe remembered, that though the company of the firſt and third claſs is compatible, that is to ſay, a gentleman may viſit theſe two claſſes of females without breaking with either, yet there is little intercourſe betwixt them. They ſpeak to one another when they meet; but meet by accident, and never viſit but at the new year.

Fourthly. Keeping good company is attended with ſome expence. A man muſt *game*, he muſt keep a carriage, and he muſt dreſs according to the faſhion. *North-Britons* wiſh to get into good company; but do not wiſh to ſpend their money idly, either becauſe they have it not to ſpend, or becauſe they wiſh to make a better uſe of it. There is only one advice to be given theſe gentlemen; they muſt either reſolve to part freely with their money, or to keep out of *good company*.

The *South-Britons* are quite the reverſe of their northern brethren; they ſpend much more than is neceſſary, and would ſpend all they have in order to make a ridiculous figure in good company. I call it a *ridiculous* figure, becauſe in a very ſhort time it appears they have not a fortune equal to their expence; beſides, by that extravagance, they inſult the company they frequent.

Fifthly. The French, though a ſenſible people, have ſome ſtrange notions. They intruſt their lives, their fortunes, the education of their children, to perſons whom they do not conſider as proper to be their own friends or companions. The phyſician, the ſurgeon, the *gouverneur des enfans*, the lawyer, are profeſſions unbecoming a man *well born, bien né*, that is to ſay, a gentleman by birth. A Britiſh ſubject, who comes into France under any of theſe denominations, is inadmiſſible into the *bonne compagnie* as above deſcribed. The lawyer, however, muſt be excepted, as the *robe ſurvenante* (to uſe a French expreſſion) does not degrade the gentleman. It is a diſagreeable truth, and yet it is a truth, that no gentleman in France will either be a phyſician, ſurgeon, or travelling or reſidentiary governor to a young gentleman. Here is a ſecond exception to be made. A clergyman or officer of a good family may, without any diſhonour to himſelf, be governor, either in a travelling or reſidentiary capacity, to a young gentleman or nobleman, his relation. In this caſe, the governor is ſuppoſed to act upon principles of generoſity, and very often has no other motive. The great man, his pupil, ſeldom makes any other return for his relation's trouble than the formality of a fine ſpeech.

Sixthly. When a Britiſh ſubject, a nobleman or gentleman by birth, comes to France, he ſhould either have no governor, or he ſhould have for a governor ſome one of his own relations. Often a Duke, Earl, or Lord's ſon, travels into France with a Swiſs, a clergyman, or preceptor of ſome univerſity. Theſe perſons may be men of learning and merit; but, if they are not relations of the young traveller, the doors of every genteel houſe will be ſhut upon them in France *. The conſequence is, that the governor, either not being admitted, or admitted only through the means of his pupil, and diſregarded when admitted, diſguſts his pupil againſt ſuch company, or the pupil deſpiſes him upon ſeeing him deſpiſed. The pupil ſees no good company becauſe his governor is not admitted into it, or is not eſteemed by it; or the pupil deſpi-

* For reaſons which reflect little honour on the underſtanding or morals of the preſent generation of Engliſhmen, it has become faſhionable for certain profeſſions to be ambitious of appearing to the world rather under any character than their own. By ſuch prepoſterous affectation, many travelling governors of my acquaintance (men in other reſpects highly eſtimable) have expoſed themſelves to the ridicule and contempt of foreigners. As men of quality and faſhion, they had doubtleſs no pretenſion to be admitted into polite circles: but, as men of letters, they might have been received into the *beſt* company, not only in France, but in every civilized country of Europe. Should any Ducheſſe or Marquiſe be ſo ſilly as to ſhut her door againſt a ſtranger of merit (who is avowed by the King's miniſter, and received as a gentleman by his own countrymen), becauſe he has not ſixteen quarters, the young Lord whom he accompanies will ſuſtain no loſs by declining to frequent ſuch a houſe until the Miſtreſs becomes more reaſonable.

In no part of Europe do people of the firſt rank and breeding anxiouſly inquire into the birth or profeſſion of thoſe whoſe manners and converſation are agreeable to them. Let a governor demean himſelf properly and modeſtly, and he will be civilly received in every company from which his pupil can reap any benefit. But when he makes parade of qualities which he does not poſſeſs, and affects a character which he knows does not belong to him, it is neither ſurpriſing nor unjuſt that his vanity ſhould meet with perpetual mortifications. *For this ſenſible Remark we are indebted to a valuable Correſpondent.* EDIT.

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ſes his governor, and pays no regard to him in matters where his advice is neceſſary. Hence it is, that people of the firſt rank in Britain, under ſuch governors, either quarrel with them in a ſhort time, or run over the continent, and come home to Britain as *ill-informed*, and as *ill bred*, as they went away. The tutors, or parents, complain of the pupil and governor for all the money they have ſpent to ſo little purpoſe, when, in reality, they have no right to complain of either the one or the other.

Seventhly. The Engliſh very often, if rich, pride themſelves on keeping an opera girl in Paris. It is, however, to be remembered, that no man that wiſhes to ſee *good company* ſhould go to any place of public reſort with an opera girl, or any other girl of the ſame ſtamp. French noblemen have their miſtreſſes, but they never go about openly with them. No woman of any character will receive a man that has been ſeen publicly with his miſtreſs. Engliſhmen ſhould remember, that more delicacy in that reſpect is expected from them than from natives. *Gent. Mag.*

Account of the RICE BUNTING, *the* Emberiza Oryzivora *of Linnæus.*

[From Pennant's Arctic Zoology.]

THeſe birds inhabit, in vaſt numbers, the iſland of Cuba, where they commit great ravages among the early crops of rice, which precede thoſe of Carolina. As ſoon as the crops of that province are to their palate, they quit Cuba, and paſs over the ſea, in numerous flights, directly north; and are very often heard in their paſſage by ſailors frequenting that courſe. Their appearance is in September, while the rice is yet milky; and they commit ſuch devaſtations, that forty acres of that grain have been totally ruined by them in a ſmall time.

They arrive very lean; but ſoon grow ſo fat, as to fly with difficulty; and when ſhot, often burſt with the fall. They continue in Carolina not much above three weeks, and retire by the time the rice begins to harden. They are eſteemed to be the moſt delicate birds of the country. I am informed, that the male birds have a fine note.

It is very ſingular, that, among the myriads which pay their autumnal viſit, there never is found a ſingle cock bird. Mr Catesby verified the fact by diſſecting numbers, under a ſuppoſition that there might have been the young of both ſexes, which had not arrived at their full colours; but found them all to be females, which are properly the RICE BIRDS. Both ſexes make a tranſient viſit to Carolina in the ſpring. It is ſaid, that a few ſtragglers continue in that country the whole year.

RICE, the periodical food of theſe birds, is a grain of India: it probably arrived in Europe (where it has been much cultivated) by way of Bactria Suſia, Babylon, and the Lower Syria. The time in which it reached Italy is uncertain; for the *Oryza* of Pliny is a very different plant from the common rice; but the laſt has been ſown with great ſucceſs about Verona for ages paſt; and was imported from thence and from Egypt, into England; until, by a mere accident, it was introduced into Carolina. It was firſt planted there about 1688, by Sir Nathaniel Johnſon, then Governor of the province; but the ſeed being ſmall and bad, the culture made little progreſs.

Chance brought here, in 1696, a veſſel from Madagaſcar; the maſter of which preſented a Mr Woodward with about half a buſhel of an excellent kind; and from this ſmall beginning ſprung an immenſe ſource of wealth to the ſouthern provinces of America; and to Europe relief from want in times of dearth. Within little more than half a century, a hundred and twenty thouſand barrels of rice have been in one year exported from South Carolina; and eighteen thouſand from Georgia: and all from the remnant of a ſea ſtore, left in the bottom of a ſack!—Ought I not to retract the word *chance*, and aſcribe to Providence ſo mighty an event from ſo ſmall a cauſe?

Good and cheap Method of Feeding Horned Cattle.

TAke eight quarts of water (cold or warm) to which add a quart of linſeed (and ſo in proportion); let this ſtand ſoaking 12 hours, then mix the liquid with a ſufficient quantity of chaff cut from good wheat ſtraw, ſo as to make the whole moiſt. Give this in troughs to the cattle, and it will anſwer every good purpoſe that can be produced from hay.—By this mode of keeping, the charge of each beaſt weekly would not exceed 1s 3d. whereas the article would (where perſons are obliged to purchaſe it) amount to five times that ſum; and the cows thus fed would produce an equal quantity, if not more milk.—To make cattle fat for ſlaughter, uſe hay cut into chaff inſtead of ſtraw. The above method is now made uſe of with great ſucceſs, by a number of farmers and graziers in the counties of Glouceſter and Worceſter. [vol. 47. p 503.]

Models

Modes of Life and Private Manners of the Ancient WELSH.

[From Warrington's Hiſtory of Wales.]

THE Welſh (according to Giraldus Cambrenſis, who was himſelf a native of the country, and wrote in a period when their native manners were pure and unadulterated by foreign intercourſe) were a nation light and nimble, and more fierce than ſtrong; from the loweſt to the higheſt of the people they were devoted to arms, which the ploughman as well as the courtier was prepared to ſeize on the firſt ſummons.

As they were not engaged in the occupations of traffic either by ſea or land, their time was entirely employed in military affairs. They were ſo anxious for the preſervation of their country and its liberties, that they eſteemed it delightful not only to fight for them, but even to ſacrifice their lives: and agreeably to this ſpirit, they entertained an idea, that it was a diſgrace to die in their beds, but an honour to fall in the field.

That their activity might not be impeded by any unneceſſary incumbrance, they made uſe of light armour; ſuch as ſmaller coats of mail, ſhields, and ſometimes of iron greaves; their offenſive weapons were arrows and long ſpears. Their bows were uſually made of ſlight twigs joined or twiſted together; and though rude in their form, they diſcharged an arrow with great force. The people of North Wales were remarkable for ſpears ſo long and well pointed, that they could pierce through an iron coat of mail; the men of South Wales were accounted the moſt expert archers.

In the time of peace, the young men accuſtomed themſelves to penetrate the woods and thickets, and to run over the tops of mountains; and by continuing this exerciſe through the day and night, they prepared themſelves for the fatigues and employments of war.

There was not a beggar to be ſeen among theſe people: for the tables of all were common to all; and with them bounty, and particularly hoſpitable entertainment, were in higher eſtimation than any of the other virtues. Hoſpitality, indeed, was ſo much the habit of this nation, by a mutual return of ſuch civilities, that it was neither offered to, nor requeſted by travellers. As ſoon as they entered any houſe, they immediately delivered their arms into the cuſtody of ſome perſon; then, if they ſuffered their feet to be waſhed by thoſe who for that purpoſe directly offered them water, they were conſidered as lodgers for the night. The refuſal of this offered civility, intimated their deſire of a morning's refreſhment only. The offer of water for the purpoſe of waſhing the feet, was conſidered as an invitation to accept of hoſpitable entertainment. The young men uſually marched in parties, or in tribes, a leader being appointed to each; and as they were devoted to arms, or given up to leiſure, and were courageous in the defence of their country, they were permitted to enter the houſe of any perſon with the ſame ſecurity as their own. The ſtrangers who arrived in the morning, were entertained until evening with the converſation of young women, and with the muſic of the harp; for in this country almoſt every houſe was provided with both. Hence we may reaſonably conclude, that the people were not much inclined to jealouſy. Such an influence had the powers of muſic on their minds, that in every family, or in every tribe, they eſteemed ſkill in playing on the harp beyond any kind of learning.

In the evening, when the viſitors were all come, an entertainment was provided according to the number and dignity of the perſons, and the wealth of the houſe; on which occaſion the cook was not fatigued with dreſſing many diſhes, nor ſuch as were high-ſeaſoned as ſtimulatives to gluttony; nor was the houſe ſet off with tables, napkins, or towels; for in all theſe things they ſtudied nature more than ſhew. The gueſts were placed by threes at ſupper, and the diſhes at the ſame time were put on ruſhes, in large and ample platters made of clean graſs, with thin and broad cakes of bread baked every day. At the ſame time that the whole family, with a kind of emulation in their civilities, were in waiting, the maſter and miſtreſs in particular were always ſtanding, very attentively overlooking the whole. At length, when the hour of ſleep approached, they all lay down in common on the public bed, ranged length-wiſe along the ſides of the room; a few ruſhes being ſtrowed on the floor, and covered only with a coarſe hard cloth, the produce of the country. The ſame garb that the people were uſed to wear in the day, ſerved them alſo in the night; and this conſiſted of a thin mantle, and a garment or ſhirt worn next

to the ſkin. The fire was kept burning at their feet throughout the night as well as in the day.

The women of this nation, as well as the men, had their hair cut round at the ears and eyes. The women alſo, as a head-dreſs, wore a large white robe, folding round, and riſing by degrees into a graceful tuft or crown. The men were accuſtomed to ſhave the whole beard, leaving only a whiſker on the upper lip; they likewiſe cut ſhort or ſhaved the hair of their heads, that it might be no impediment to their activity in paſſing through the thick woods and foreſts that covered their country.

In rhythmical ſongs, and in extempore effuſions, they excelled to a great degree, both in reſpect to invention and elegance of ſtyle; and for theſe purpoſes poets or bards were appointed. But beyond all other rhetorical ornaments they preferred the uſe of alliteration, and that kind more eſpecially which repeats the firſt letters or ſyllables of words. They made ſo much uſe of this ornament in every finiſhed diſcourſe, that they thought nothing elegantly ſpoken without it.

There were among the Welſh, what were not to be found among other nations, certain perſons whom they call *Awenyddion* (a word expreſſive of poetical raptures), who appear to have been ſolely under the influence of the imagination. Theſe perſons, when they were conſulted about any thing doubtful, inflamed with a high degree of enthuſiaſm, were carried out of themſelves, and ſeemed as if they were poſſeſſed by an inviſible ſpirit. Yet they did not immediately declare a ſolution of the difficulty required, but by the power of wild and inconſiſtent circumlocution, in which they abounded, any perſon who diligently obſerved the anſwer would at length, by ſome turn or digreſſion in the ſpeech, receive an explanation of what he ſought. From this ſtate of eſtaſy they were at laſt rouſed, as from a deep ſleep; and were compelled, as it were, by the violence of others to return to themſelves. Two things were peculiar to theſe perſons; that after the anſwer was given they did not come to themſelves unleſs recalled by force from this apparent ſpecies of madneſs; and when they recovered their reaſon, they did not, it is ſaid, recollect any of thoſe things which in their eſtaſy they had uttered. And if it happened that they were again conſulted about the ſame or any other thing, they would ſpeak, it is true, but would expreſs themſelves in other and far different words. This property was beſtowed upon them, as they fancied, in their ſleep; at which time it appeared to ſome of them as if new milk or honey was poured into their mouths; to others as if a written ſcroll had been put into their mouths; and on their awaking, they publicly profeſſed that they have been endowed with theſe extraordinary gifts. This imaginary ſpirit of divination has been in much uſe in the Highlands of Scotland, and there known under the expreſſive term of *ſecond ſight*.

Pride of anceſtry and nobility of family were points held in the higheſt eſtimation among the Welſh; and of courſe they were far more deſirous of noble than of rich and ſplendid marriages. So deeply rooted was this ſpirit, that even the very loweſt of the people carefully preſerved the genealogy of their families, and were able from memory readily to recite the names, not only of their immediate anceſtors, but even to the ſixth and ſeventh generation, and even to trace them ſtill farther back; in this manner, Rhys ap Gryffydh, ap Rhys, ap Tewdur, ap Enion, ap Owen, ap Howel, ap Cadwal, ap Roderic the Great.

A Welſhman was conſidered as honourable, if among his anceſtors there had been neither ſlave, nor foreigner, nor infamous perſon. Yet if any foreigner had ſaved the life of a Welſhman, or delivered him from captivity, he might be naturaliſed, and was entitled to the rights of Welſhmen. And any foreign family, having reſided in Wales for four generations, were alſo admitted to the ſame privileges.

The Welſh did not uſually reſide in cities, villages, or camps; but led a ſolitary life in the woods.

On the borders of their foreſts, it was uſual, not to raiſe great palaces, nor ſumptuous houſes built with ſtone; but only to twiſt together oſier coverings, ſuited to the different ſeaſons of the year, with as little labour as expence.

They uſed likewiſe ſmall boats made of oſier, for the purpoſes of fiſhing, or of paſſing rivers. Theſe were not of an oblong form, had not any beaks, but were made nearly round, or rather of a triangular ſhape; and were covered both in the inſide and on the outſide with raw ſkins. But ſuch was the form of the

boat,

boat, that when a ſalmon was caught, the waterman was in danger of being overſet whenever it ſtruck the boat. The boats were ſo light, that the fiſhermen uſually carried them on their ſhoulders.

From a ſpirit of ſuperſtitious piety, very peculiar privileges of ſanctuary have been given to the Welſh churches. Not only in cemeteries or burial places, but within the precincts of certain bounds appointed by the biſhop, all animals had the liberty of feeding in perfect ſecurity. The larger churches, endowed with greater privileges on account of their antiquity, extended their bounds of ſanctuary ſtill farther, as far as the cattle go in the morning and return at night. So ſacred were the privileges of ſanctuary, that if any perſon at mortal enmity with his prince, fought the refuge of the church, his own perſon, his family, and all his property remained in the moſt perfect ſecurity. If any attempt was made to violate the ſanctuary, the parties under its protection marched out with great boldneſs, and not only moleſted the prince himſelf, but grievouſly infeſted the country.

If the King granted a licence to build a church in any village whoſe inhabitants were villains, to which a cemetery was aſſigned, and prieſts were appointed to celebrate maſs, the village from that time became free. The hermits and other aſcetics in this country were in a peculiar degree auſtere in the habits of mortification, and in their piety more ſpiritualiſed than the religious in any other nation. As it was the diſpoſition of this people to purſue every object with vehemence, none were elſewhere to be found ſo bad as the worſt, nor any better than the good among the Welſh.

It was natural that a warlike people would employ their leiſure, during the ſhort intervals of peace, in the habits of domeſtic feſtivity, or in the pleaſures of the field. A variety of exerciſes, ſome more violent, others more gentle in their nature, were in common uſe among the Welſh. Of theſe, many which were the more peculiar diverſions of men, were feats of ſtrength; namely, pitching a bar of iron, throwing a ſledge, a large ſtone or quoits, running, leaping, ſwimming, wreſtling, riding, archery, and throwing the javelin; fencing with ſword and buckler, the two-handed ſword, and playing with the quarter ſtaff. There were ſeveral other diverſions conſidered as rural ſports, and as leſs manly; ſuch as hunting, fiſhing, and bird-hunting; beſides which ſundry others were uſed in families as private amuſements, and conſidered as literary; ſuch as poetry, playing on the harp, reading Welſh, ſinging poems with ſtringed inſtruments, ſinging an ode of four parts, and accenting it with proper expreſſion; heraldry, and embaſſy. Beſides theſe, there were various modes of hunting, particularly hunting the ſtag, purſuing a ſwarm of bees, and taking ſalmon; theſe three were deemed common diverſions. The ſtag was hunted with hounds and greyhounds; and this was called a common diverſion, becauſe every perſon who was at his death had a right to a ſhare. Even if a man on his journey happened to paſs by at the time the ſtag was killed, he was intitled by the game laws to a ſhare in common with thoſe who had hunted him down. A ſwarm of bees was likewiſe a common property; for whoever found them on his own or other people's lands, unleſs the finder ſhould have put a mark that he firſt found them, every one who paſſed by had a right to enjoy a ſhare; but a fourth part went to the owner of the ground. Salmon were alſo conſidered in the ſame light; for when they were caught with a net, or ſtruck with a ſpear, or taken in any other way, whoever ſhould come to the place before a diviſion was made, was intitled to a part, provided the ſalmon was taken out of a common water.

It was neceſſary that every perſon who carried a horn ſhould be acquainted with the nine game laws. If he could not give an account of them, he forfeited his horn. Whoever went a hunting with couples, forfeited thoſe likewiſe if he could not properly give an explanation of them. No one was allowed to ſhoot a beaſt that was appropriated for the chace, when at reſt, on pain of forfeiting his bow and arrows to the lord of the manor: though he might ſhoot at, and kill any ſuch, if he could, when the dogs were in full cry; but he was not allowed to ſhoot among the dogs.

The tenants of bond lands and villages, being inferior to freeholders, were bound to ſervile employments, and in many things were at the diſpoſal of their princes or Lords. A lord had the privilege of parting with his vaſſal either by ſale or donation. There was, however, a diſtinction in point of privilege between

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ſuch tenants. The free natives were thoſe who poſſeſſed ſome degree of freedom, who might go where they pleaſed, might buy and ſell, and enjoyed many other immunities. The pure natives were conſidered as the entire property of their princes or lords, were ſold along with the eſtate, and confined within its limits; out of which, if they happened to wander, they were liable to be driven back like brutes with great ſeverity. The profeſſion of any of the mechanic or liberal arts made a vaſſal free; but no vaſſal could acquire them without the permiſſion of his lord.

From the few traits which are here given of the private manners and cuſtoms of the Welſh, we may form a lively idea of their genius, and, in ſome meaſure, may diſcriminate what was peculiar in their national character. Hence, too, we are enabled to account for a variety of ſplendid actions which ſtrike our wonder, and intereſt our feelings for the fate of a brave people, who were ſo often thrown into ſituations, ſudden and rapid in their changes, and which appear to be ſingular in the hiſtory of nations.

SIR,

I Recollect to have lately read in one of the public prints, a paragraph purporting, that it was in contemplation to appropriate all the unclaimed ſtock in the Bank, from a certain period, towards the extinction of the national debt; the paragraph inſtancing, by way of *Nota Bene*, that there was, in one ſingle article, 10,000l. which had lain there ſince the reign of Queen Anne.

If there be any portion of truth in this article of intelligence, may not the propriety and juſtice of keeping the effects of others locked up unadvertiſed, and therefore unclaimed, be reaſonably queſtioned? Moſt ignorant individuals (ignorant I mean reſpecting the property of their relations thus concealed) derive no benefit but through the channel of chance or improper information.

Leaving, however, this matter to be weighed at leiſure, permit me, Sir, to inform ſociety at large, without being thought an impertinent individual of it, how this lapſe of ſtock has been hitherto in general occaſioned; ſo that, if nothing be reſtored to ourſelves, we may check, at leaſt, an accumulating loſs to poſterity.

Let us ſuppoſe, then, that Thomas Smith, a perſon of whatever deſcription, dies poſſeſſed of 1000l. ſtock, and his ſon, or his nephew, John Smith, is appointed his ſole executor. The will is proved, and the dividend duly received by the executor as ſuch, who, in the courſe of his own life, buys 1000l. ſtock himſelf, and dying inteſtate, his brother, or next of kin, takes out letters of adminiſtration, and repairing to the Bank, in ſearch of his effects, finding 1000l. ſtock in the name of John Smith, deſcribed of the place in which he died, receives the dividend, as adminiſtrator, and is ſatisfied with the clerk's declaration that it is all the ſtock he poſſeſſed. We will ſuppoſe this relation's name to be William Smith, who ſoon after dies, and leaves a young family, appointing his widow ſole executrix, and two friends, as truſtees, to execute the purpoſes of his will; but before his death he alſo had been able to purchaſe 1000l. ſtock; which being found there, in his name, as he found his brother's before, the widows and truſtees inquire no farther; but, after having it transferred into their names, according to the will, and having regularly made a ſearch throughout all the funds, add the reſt of his effects to this truſt, and ſit themſelves down ſatisfied that all is right. Now, this is not only a probable, but I take upon me to ſay, *mutatis mutandis*, an actual ſtatement, and by no means likely to be a ſingle event; if we conſider, on the one hand, the averſion which too many ſenſible men have to the making a will, and a diſinclination, from very miſtaken notions, on the other, to acquaint their wives and families with the particulars of their affairs; the looſe manner alſo in which many men, even in buſineſs, keep their private accounts; and what numbers there are who keep no account at all;—in this one inſtance, then, it is obvious, that 2000l. ſtock, principal and intereſt, that is to ſay, 1000l. remaining in the name of John Smith deceaſed, and the other in the name of Thomas Smith deceaſed, are actually dead to the widow and children of William Smith, who was heir to both; but how are his repreſentatives to know it? Who is to acquaint them? So that here is 2000l. lapſe, never likely to be recovered fairly, but by public advertiſement, when the children of this William Smith could eaſily ſubſtantiate their claims; for every thing would unravel itſelf.

I will now ſuggeſt another caſe, that another man has retired from London with 20,000l. or 30,000l. in the different funds. After his retirement he ſhall purchaſe 2000l. or 3000l in ſome new ſtock; or, which is the ſame thing, in a ſtock in which he had no property before. In this purchaſe his broker, probably by his principal's order, ſhall deſcribe him according to his reſidence in the country, while his former property beſpoke him of ſome ſtreet in London. The ſuppoſition, then, is not vague, but rather, for the reaſons I have before mentioned, I think probable; it is however poſſible, that his repreſentatives, on his deceaſe, ſhall know nothing of this new purchaſe, but readily finding the other ſtock, ſhare it among themſelves, by the aſſiſtance of the clerk at the book, as ſome old will of the deceaſed ſhall direct, and, ſatisfied with more money than they expected, inquire no farther. But even admitting the ſearch through the offices, the proprietor himſelf never having had occaſion to ſell, and being accuſtomed to receive his own dividend, felt no inconvenience from theſe different deſcriptions; and his Chriſtian and ſurname being common perhaps to hundreds, how were the clerks to divine, that a man of a particular and profeſſional deſcription in London, and the ſquire of a village an hundred miles from it, was one and the ſame perſon? I take upon me to ſay, that both theſe examples are in point; they may even unite in one family: the loſs will, of courſe, be then the greater to the branches of it, and theſe are the ſources to which may be traced the amazing increaſe of lapſed ſtock, and in what the Bank call their clearing books and exchequer accounts. Yours,

Lond. Chron. MONITOR.

Particulars of CHARLES PRICE, *Lottery-Office Keeper, who hanged himſelf in Tothil fields, Bridewell.*

THIS unhappy man was apprehended about Jan. 15. at Mr Aldus's, a pawnbroker, in Berwick-ſtreet: he had paſſed only three examinations, and executed himſelf in Tothil fields, Bridewell, on the 24th, there being only ten days from his apprehenſion to his diſſolution. About 'Change he was well known; and his natural propenſity to diſhoneſty was the ſpring of all his misfortunes; it made him ſhift from place to place to avoid the abuſe of the vulgar, and the clamorous calls of lucky adventurers. His laſt office was the corner of King's ſtreet, Covent-Garden, from whence he was driven, about ſix years ago, by a moſt unaccountable run of ill luck, and eſteemed himſelf happy in a private decampment.

Driven thus to expedients, and having a large family of eight children to ſupport, he turned his thoughts to that attempt which proved ſo fatal to him. His firſt attempt on the Bank was about the year 1780, when a forged note had been taken there, ſo complete in all its parts, the engraving, the ſignatures, the water marks, &c. that it paſſed through various hands unſuſpected, and was not diſcovered till it came to a certain department in the routine of that office, and through which no forgery whatever can paſs undiſcovered. This occaſioned a conſiderable alarm; and notes upon notes flowed in about the lottery and Chriſtmas times, without even the leaſt poſſibility of tracing out the firſt negociator. Various conſultations were held, and plans laid, but in vain.

Mr Price had no partner in this buſineſs:—He engraved his own plates; he made his own paper, with the water-marks, and he was his own negotiator; thereby confining a ſecret to his own breaſt, which he wiſely deemed not at eaſe in the breaſt of another: even Mrs Price had not the leaſt knowledge or ſuſpicion of his proceedings. Having practiſed engraving till he had made himſelf ſufficient maſter of it, he then made his own ink to prove his own works: having purchaſed implements, and manufactured the water mark, he next ſet himſelf to counterfeit the hand writings, and ſucceeded ſo far, as even to puzzle a part of the firſt body of men in the world.

On Jan. 26. the Coroner's Inqueſt ſat on his body, and brought in their verdict, Self-Murder; and the ſame night he was put in the ground in the fields, and a ſtake driven through his body. He was 52 years of age.

When the keeper of the priſon cut him down, he found in his breaſt three letters; one directed to the Bank Directors, wherein he confeſſed to them every thing concerning the forgery, as well as the manner of putting off the notes; another to his wife, written in a moſt affecting ſtyle; and one to the keeper of the priſon, thanking him for the humanity he had ſhewn him. Price's wife was diſcharged from priſon; and the rolling-preſs, plates, &c. were deſtroyed by order of Sir Sampſon Wright.

PARLIAMENT. [p. 6.]

In the Houſe of Commons, Jan. 25. his Majeſty's ſpeech was, on motion, ordered to be taken into conſideration; and Mr Smith brought up the report from the committee. When the ſecond paragraph of the addreſs was read,

Mr Fox roſe to demand an explanation from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the ſubject of the German confederacy. That confederacy ſeemed of material conſequence to this country, and ſhould be perfectly underſtood before the Houſe could approve, by their addreſs, of what miniſters had done in the Elector of Hanover's anſwer to the King of Pruſſia's communication. The anſwer, or rather no anſwer, which the Rt Hon. Gentleman choſe to give yeſterday upon the ſubject, did not ſatisfy thoſe who had the intereſt of England nearly at heart; nor could it be believed that the King of Great Britain, binding him as Elector of Hanover to ſupport the German confederacy, did not alſo involve this country in the ſame cauſe. Is it poſſible to ſuppoſe, that the ſpecial intereſts of this country, calling upon government to take an active part with the Emperor in oppoſition to this confederacy, that the King of Great Britain draw his ſword againſt the Elector of Hanover? How then can it be gravely ſaid, that the intereſts of Hanover and the intereſts of Great Britain are two ſeparate and independent intereſts! German wars were of the moſt fatal nature to the lives and purſes of the Engliſh nation; and every thing that has the moſt diſtant tendency to engage G. Britain in thoſe wars ſhould be guarded againſt in the ſtrongeſt manner. He was therefore anxious to know the full extent of this German league. With reſpect to the anſwer given to the Pruſſian memorial, it is generally underſtood to amount to a promiſe of ſupporting the confederacy. Similar memorials had been ſent to other courts; but thoſe courts wiſely conſidered their own intereſts. Ruſſia, in particular, ſaw no occaſion for any ſuch league; France made no anſwer at all; but England gave an anſwer that put it in the power of the confederacy to call upon the Elector of Hanover to ſupport his German intereſts againſt the Britiſh empire, and to draw his ſword in one country againſt himſelf as King in another.

Mr Pitt, in reply, ſaid, that the anſwer he had given yeſterday was all the information that he thought requiſite on the occaſion. The Rt Hon. Gentleman's motives needed no illuſtration. He wanted to create a jealouſy in foreign powers, and to ſpread diſtruſt among the people at home; but was that the part of a good citizen? was it the part of a good citizen, to hold forth language that muſt be injurious to the public peace? was it the part of a good citizen, to aim at the diſcloſure of matters which were not proper to be publicly known? Such conduct beſpoke the enemy, and not the friend of his country. If there be any ſolidity in the Rt Hon. Gentleman's argument, the weight of it recoils upon himſelf. If parliament were to interfere in the buſineſs, then parliament muſt ſtand pledged to ſupport the confederacy; whereas, at preſent, the Electorate of Hanover only ſtood pledged, and G. Britain had nothing to do in the affair. Mr Pitt ſaid, he was ready at all times to meet the Rt Hon. Gentleman on fair ground of argument; but not all the force of his much-admired eloquence ſhould wreſt from him more than he had already ſaid upon the ſubject.

Mr Fox, in reply, ſaid, that the Rt Hon. Gentleman need be under no apprehenſion of his diſcloſing ſecrets; for the fact of the confederacy, and the interference of England, were notorious to all Europe. All that was now meant, was to have it formally communicated by the miniſter to the country which was the moſt intereſted in the event.

Some words fell from Mr Sheridan on the ſubject of the Iriſh propoſitions: The addreſs was read without further interruption, and agreed to.

On Jan. 31. the Hon. C. Marſham roſe to move for leave to bring in a bill for amending and rendering all the laws relative to the militia into one act. His reaſons were, that he deemed the militia the natural and moſt conſtitutional defence of the kingdom; that nothing could be ſo prejudicial and injurious to the ſervice as holding it cheap; and that a ſet of gentlemen, who like himſelf had ſerved in the militia, had exerted their endeavours towards diſcovering the beſt means of rendering it reſpectable. It was, he ſaid, with this view that he meant to bring forward the motion of which he had given notice. He reminded the Houſe of the origin of the militia, the manner in which its ſervices had been formerly received,

received, and to ſubmit it to the conſide ration of the Houſe, what meaſures were proper to re inſtate it on a reſpectable footing. In the year 1756 or 1757, when the war before the laſt broke out, a body of Hanoverians and Heſſians were brought into this kingdom for its internal ſecurity, which ſoon occaſioned ſome diſturbance. The Engliſh revolted at the idea of not being able to defend themſelves. It was then that the militia was ſet on foot; and ſo effectually did it anſwer the idea that was formed of it, that it was encouraged and eſtabliſhed as a national defence the very ſame ſeſſion; and at the end of the war, the officers who had ſerved in it received as a reward the eſpecial thanks of his Majeſty and of this Houſe. After the peace, the militia were called out, embodied, and trained once a year. How different had been the conduct of government at the end of laſt war! Tho' the militia had acted as well during that war as at any time during the former wars, they were not thought worthy of notice: no thanks had been given by the Crown; no thanks by that Houſe; and for three years together they were not called out once. The conſequence has been, that gentlemen have grown indifferent about the ſervice, and diſguſted at the neglect with which they had been treated. The gentlemen who had aſſiſted him were all of opinion, that one means was, to reduce the various laws into one; and another material object of it was, to change the time of the duration of the ſervice, and to alter it from three years to five. There were, he obſerved, three objections generally made to the militia: one, the great expence to the kingdom; another, the prejudice it did to the recruiting-ſervice of the army; and a third, the heavy burden it entailed on the country. All theſe he obviated, and concluded with moving for leave to bring in the bill.

Mr Pye ſeconded the motion.

Mr Pitt roſe, to return his thanks to the Hon. Gentleman, for having ſo properly brought under the conſideration of the Houſe a matter of ſuch truly national importance as the militia. The interval of peace was undoubtedly the fitteſt moment poſſible for them to unite in endeavouring to put that great and moſt conſtitutional defence of the kingdom upon a reſpectable footing; and, much as he profeſſed himſelf the friend of œconomy in that, as in every other branch of the public ſervice, he was not ſo much a ſlave of his opinion, as by any means to wiſh to leſſen the advantages the country had felt from a well regulated militia; but he confeſſed he did not entirely think, with the Hon. Gentleman, that it was ſo entirely neceſſary for the militia to be embodied every year. He thought it would be attended with an expence that would produce no adequate advantages to the nation; but, as he did not diſapprove of the principle of the bill, he ſhould not oppoſe its being brought in.

Mr Marſham thought the calling out of the militia regularly every year ſo eſſential to the preſervation of that force on a reſpectable footing, that, if it was the Rt Hon. Gentleman's reſolution to ſet his face againſt it, he ſhould not think it worth his while to give himſelf any more trouble about it, but would leave the matter as he found it.

Mr Pitt ſaid, he was far from thinking lightly of the eſtabliſhment of a well-diſciplined and well-regulated militia. All he meant to ſay was, that the beſt means poſſible to be adopted for the purpoſe, was a matter of future conſideration, when the bill came regularly into diſcuſſion.——The bill was ordered, and Meſſ. Marſham and Pye to form it, and bring it in.

Mr Marſham, Feb. 6. ſaid a few words relative to this buſineſs. It was the unanimous opinion of the gentlemen with whom he had the honour to act, that as the Rt Hon. Gentleman had declared his diſſent to that part of the plan which directed the calling them out annually to exerciſe, the whole of the plan ſhould be withdrawn. He could not but regret, though he acknowledged the propriety of their deciſion. It was true, the bill was meant to contain many other ſalutary proviſions; but that was the *ſine qua non*, without which all the reſt would be nugatory.

Mr Pitt roſe, to expreſs the critical ſituation in which he ſtood. He had merely ſuſpended his opinion on a matter of the higheſt importance, which he wiſhed to refer to further diſcuſſion; to have ſaid more, would have implied a diſreſpect to this Houſe; yet, from this indeciſion on the part of an individual, the Hon. Gentleman had thought proper to withdraw a meaſure which he ſtood pledged to the Houſe to bring forward. He conjured the Hon. Gentleman, as a good citizen, and an active vigilant member

of that Houſe, not to recede from his duty. The importance of the ſubject would inſure it the fulleſt attention; but, if the defence could be eſtabliſhed in a ſufficient degree without the additional expence, the Hon. Gentleman, he was certain, in his friendſhip to the meaſure, would not be a foe to œconomy.

Mr Martham thought himſelf juſtified in declining a meaſure in which he was not likely to ſucceed. The oppoſition, it was true, was from an individual! but that individual a powerful one! the miniſter of the King! Beſides, the plan which he had the honour to recommend to the attention of the Houſe, was not his plan ſolely; if it belonged to any excluſively, it muſt be to thoſe who were intruſted with the executive powers of the ſtate.

Mr Martin roſe to purſue the ſubject; but was interrupted by the Speaker, who obſerved, that he was not in order, as there was no motion before the Houſe.

Sir Geo. Yonge, Secretary at War, Feb. 2. preſented the army-eſtimates, to be conſidered on the 8th.

On Feb. 6. Lord Hood preſented a petition from the citizens of Weſtminſter, for a repeal of the ſhop tax. Several other petitions on the ſame ſubject were likewiſe preſented.

Mr Pitt roſe, Feb. 7. to acquaint the Houſe with the intention of government to eſtabliſh a fund, to be applied ſolely and ſacredly towards the diſcharge of the national debt. But in this buſineſs he thought two inquiries ſhould previouſly be made; the firſt, to aſcertain the amount of the ſurplus; the other, the moſt ſecure mode of applying it to the intended purpoſe. Of theſe he thought the firſt the moſt eſſential; he had therefore ordered an exact account to be made out of the national expenditure and of the national reſources: theſe to be laid before a ſelect committee, to be fully inveſtigated; and the Houſe, being in full poſſeſſion of their report of the exact balance, may proceed to the application. This, he ſaid, would inevitably occaſion ſome delay, which, he preſumed, the Houſe would readily excuſe, for the ſake of juſt information. Theſe hints he had thrown out, he ſaid, for the ſake of apprifing the Houſe with what government intended.

On Feb. 8. the order of the day being read for going into the committee on the army-eſtimates, the Secretary at War moved, That the Speaker do leave the chair.

Mr Sheridan oppoſed the motion on the ground of informality. It had hitherto been the invariable practice of the Houſe to conſider the navy eſtimates previous to thoſe of the army; and it was now the more neceſſary, as it was underſtood that there was this year to be an additional demand for the ſervice. He likewiſe obſerved, that it had been the practice in all preceding times, not to move for their being referred to a committee, until they had been on the table eight days.

Capt. Minchin oppoſed the motion. He could not in his conſcience vote for the army eſtabliſhment, while the militia, the natural and conſtitutional defence of the kingdom, ſtood in ſuſpence. He had hoped, if the bill which was propoſed to the Houſe had been adopted, that the militia might have been placed upon ſuch a footing as to have enabled government to have made a conſiderable retrenchment in the army-eſtimates, inſtead of adding to the enormous expence. To think of ſaving about 20,000 l. a-year in not training the militia, was, in his opinion, the moſt wanton extravagance, under the pretence of œconomy, that ever was adopted by a Britiſh miniſter.

Mr Steele roſe in defence of the miniſter, who, he ſaid, had been entirely miſunderſtood by the friends of the intended militia-bill. His Hon. Friend [Mr Pitt] had been treated as an enemy to that bill; whereas he had profeſſed himſelf the direct contrary. All he had ſaid inimical on the ſubject was, that he could not pledge himſelf to give it his full ſupport till he ſhould ſee the bill brought forward, and heard it diſcuſſed.

Mr Sheridan roſe again, and expreſſed his ſatisfaction that ſo many reſpectable characters had devoted their attention to that important part of our national defence; and hoped his Hon. Friend would take the member at his word, and proceed in bringing it to an iſſue. The Rt Hon. Gentleman, with a verſatility peculiar to himſelf, had declared, that he was to be conſidered in the buſineſs only as a *ſimple individual*; and he hoped he would not aſſume any other character till it was finiſhed. He, however, for one, could not place much faith in the Rt Hon. Gentleman's profeſſions. He was ſometimes the *miniſter*, and ſometimes

times the *ſimple individual*, juſt as beſt ſuited the preſent moment. In the reform of the repreſentation of the people, he was the *ſimple individual*; in the Weſtminſter ſcrutiny, he was the *ſimple individual*; but in the Iriſh commercial ſyſtem, he was the *miniſter* of the Crown; nay, the repreſentative of the repreſentatives of the people of Great Britain. Mr Sheridan again preſſed his Hon. Friend [Mr Marſham] to bring the meaſure to the teſt, to ſee if any miniſter of this country would be bold enough to ſet his face againſt its conſtitutional defence.

Lord North contended, that by the preſent deviation from order an inlet was opened, which may give admiſſion to abuſes of the moſt dangerous tendency.

Mr Pitt ſaid, gentlemen had employed their eloquence in pointing out the ill conſequences of theſe eſtimates being paſſed after an inſpection of leſs than a *week*; yet, when the matter came to be diſcuſſed, it appeared that they had actually lain on the table *ſeven* days. To the charges, however ſeverely urged againſt him, on the ſubject of the militia, as they were founded in miſrepreſentation, he ſhould give but a ſhort reply. He would always avow himſelf the friend, he might ſay the hereditary friend, of that eſtabliſhment, (alluding no doubt to his father's being the firſt miniſter who called forth the militia *effectively*); but he was not therefore obliged to enter raſhly into its ſupport in all its circumſtances, and without due conſideration. He ſhould diſregard thoſe imputations, by whomever and in whatever manner they were affixed, which charged him with deſigns tending to its ſubverſion, merely becauſe he had dared to reſerve an opinion on a weighty and important circumſtance relating to it. If any blame were due, it certainly belonged to thoſe who, on ſo ſlight a pretext, had withdrawn a code of uſeful and ſalutary regulations, which had been prefaced by ſo many encomiums, and which they ſtood pledged to the public to produce.

Mr Marſham roſe to vindicate himſelf from the laſt charge. He ſtated, that a bill had been actually drawn up by two gentlemen members of that Houſe. The produce of their labours he had preſented to the Rt Hon. Gentleman, and it was now in his poſſeſſion. Its framers had reſigned it in diſguſt, on finding that the leading feature of the buſineſs had met with an implied rejection.

Mr Pitt explained. The diſapprobation which he had expreſſed, he ſaid, belonged excluſively to the Hon. Gentleman who had laſt ſpoken, and not in any degree to thoſe gentlemen whoſe labours he had brought forward. Thoſe gentlemen were certainly intitled to his private thanks, and to the public gratitude.

Lord North roſe to enforce and explain his former arguments. The uſage, he ſaid, did not require a *week*, but *eight days*; and therefore the innovation was ſtill apparent.

Mr Roſe, who had been ſome time employed in the reſearch, called the attention of the Houſe to a precedent in the Journals, which was perfectly in point. It was taken from a period when the Noble Lord [North] was Chancellor of the Exchequer; and ſtated, that in 1774 the army eſtimates had been brought in Dec. 12. and actually voted on the 16th of the ſame month.

Lord North ſaid, that as that was the commencement of the American troubles, the violation of form was juſtified by the urgency of the caſe.

Mr Grenville attacked Lord North on this declaration. He thought it was ſingular, that, in an awful criſis, a buſineſs ſhould have been precipitated, which was the ſource of all the calamities we have ſince experienced, whilſt at preſent, in a year of peace, an objection ſhould be made to a ſimilar proceeding.

Mr Courtenay entered at large into the impropriety of voting the army eſtimates before thoſe of the navy. He was proceeding to treat, in his uſual ſtrain of ridicule, what Mr Grenville had ſaid on the American war, when he was called to order by that gentleman, who deſired that he might not be permitted *to torture his arguments*. — Mr Courtenay ſaid, he had no ſuch intention. The Hon. Gentleman was the only ſimple individual in the Houſe who had uſed no arguments; and, for his part, he did not think it poſſible to torture that which had no exiſtence. He reprobated the conduct of the miniſter on the ſubject of the militia, who had acted with his uſual duplicity, by admitting the principle, but rejecting the concluſion. He requeſted the Speaker to put an end to the debate, by declaring the uſage.

The Speaker repeated what he had before

fore ſaid, that he looked on the proceeding as informal.

The gallery was then cleared, and a diviſion was expected; but the queſtion for the Speaker's leaving the chair was agreed to, and the eſtimates voted.

On Feb 10. Mr Luttrell preſented the ordnance eſtimates, and moved, that they be taken into conſideration on Monday ſe'ennight. Ordered.

Mr Courtenay moved, that they might, with the extraordinary eſtimates, be printed for the uſe of the members.

Mr Pitt roſe, he ſaid, to ſecond the motion, and to acquaint the Houſe with what the board of general officers had done, who had been appointed to enquire into the ſtate of the fortifications at Portſmouth and Plymouth; and who had made an eſtimate of the expences of neceſſary reparations, amounting to the ſum of 300,000l. But as 50,000l. had been voted on a former occaſion, and remained in the exchequer unemployed, he thought the ſum to be voted for that ſervice might be reſtricted to 250,000l. He ſaid, that as that board had been judged fully competent, the expediency or inexpediency of the fortifications had been left to them; and they had been unanimous in their opinion, that fortifications, added to the navy, were the only ſecurity from the attacks of an enemy; and that the ſyſtem ſuggeſted by the Maſter General of the Ordnance was chiefly to be preferred. He ſaid, there were ſome remarks contained in the report, that would be very improper to be publicly known; he ſhould therefore refer what farther he had to ſay on the ſubject till the buſineſs ſhould come properly before the committee of ſupply.

General Burgoyne owned, it was a matter of great delicacy to ſpeak of the report with equal reſerve and perſpicuity, ſo as to conceal what was improper particularly to be known, and to ſtate to the Houſe juſt ſo much as to enable them to judge of the ſums requiſite for carrying the propoſed plans into execution; which, perhaps, ſome gentlemen might deem the more indiſpenſable, as it was by no means clear, that the report of the board carried the matter to the extent the Rt Hon. Gentleman had ſtated.

Mr Courtenay inſiſted, that the report ought to be laid before the Houſe; for aught he knew, ſome of their moſt important reſolutions might be carried by a ſingle vote, and that vote the Maſter of the ordnance's. He therefore moved, that the report might be laid upon the table.

Mr Luttrell roſe in ſome heat, to controvert ſo unjuſt an inſinuation. He aſſured the Hon. Gentleman, that the majorities of that board were more than one, two, or three; nay more than twenty.

This cauſed much altercation, and was not got rid of but by moving the order of the day.

The Houſe went into a committee of ſupply, Mr Gilbert in the chair.

Mr Brett moved the following reſolutions, which paſſed *nem. con.*

That 18,000 ſeamen, including marines, be employed for ſea-ſervice for the year 1786.

That 4l. per man, per month, be allowed for maintaining them, including the ordnance for ſea-ſervice.

On the 13th Mr Pye brought in his militia bill, which was read the firſt time, and ordered to be printed.

Mr Jenkinſon gave notice, that he meant on Friday to move for the exports and imports of a branch of commerce material to the Britiſh revenue.

Mr Burke wiſhed the Hon. Gentleman had choſen any other vacant day for his motion, as he had in contemplation to move an enquiry, the moſt ſerious and ſolemn that ever came before any human judicature; an enquiry that nearly concerned the honour of Parliament, the faith of the nation, and the eſſential, the eternal intereſts of humanity.

Mr Pitt ſaid, it might ſo happen that both the Hon. Gentlemen might have time to make their motions on Friday. He wiſhed, however, that the Hon. Gentleman (Mr Burke) would be a little more explicit as to the object of a motion, thus ſolemnly and emphatically introduced to the Houſe, that gentlemen might come properly prepared to meet it.

Mr Burke ſaid, the gentlemen on the ſide of the Houſe where he ſat, had been called upon repeatedly, to bring forward their charges againſt a gentleman juſt returned from India. Thoſe charges, he ſaid, ſo far as they went, would certainly criminate; but his direct object was to ſubſtantiate facts, not to apply them. It was therefore an enquiry to which gentlemen ought to come prepared with perfect equality of mind.

Major

Major Scott obſerved, that the moſt ſerious accuſations had, indeed, been long threatened; he hoped the time was now come when thoſe threatenings were to be brought forward.

Lord Mahon roſe to complain of the unfair treatment he had met with by the rejection in the other Houſe, of his bill for regulating county elections. It was, he ſaid, no very pleaſing circumſtance, when a gentleman, after much pains with a bill, and when he had thought his taſk over, and he had obtained the ſuffrage of that Houſe, to find it rejected in another; himſelf abuſed, and his ſervices neglected. A re-hearing he thought would be his beſt vindication, and he would therefore move for leave to introduce his former bill for regulating county elections, preventing litigious delays, and other purpoſes therein mentioned.—Leave was granted.

On the 15th, the Houſe, after private buſineſs was over, proceeded to ballot for a committee to appoint commiſſioners, from different liſts delivered in at the table, for executing certain powers of the Eaſt-India judicature bill. A like committee had been choſen the ſame day for the like purpoſe in the Houſe of Peers.

On Feb. 16. Mr Sheridan roſe to expreſs his deteſtation of the India bill in all its parts, and particularly his abhorrence of the partial conduct that had been manifeſt, on the appointment, the day before, of the gentlemen who were to form the ſupreme court of controul under the bill in queſtion; a bill which affected to be a guard againſt all undue influence; yet, in the very firſt inſtance, a manifeſt influence was apparent; for out of 200 members, from among whom thoſe who were to be the grand inquiſitors were to be choſen, at leaſt 140 of them had letters written by the clerks of the treaſury, delivered into their hands by Pearſon, the door keeper, as they entered the Houſe. Was not this like packing a jury? He did not, he ſaid, preſs forward this complaint as downright perſonal interference; but the more diſtant the danger ſeemed to be, the more baneful it was likely to prove in its conſequences. If the Rt Hon. Gentleman wiſhed to ſtand clear in the opinion of that Houſe, or the public, he could have no objection to a motion he was then about to make, which was, "That Joſeph Pearſon, the door-keeper of this Houſe, be called in, and examined thereto."

Mr Pitt ſaid, the motion was an inſult to the Houſe. He recapitulated the charge: 1ſt, It was ſaid to be an influence by the delivery of papers. Admitting the liſts to be delivered to Pearſon by ſome clerks of the treaſury, where was the crime? 2d, It was ſaid to be packing a liſt as packing a jury! Was ever any thing more ridiculous? If the Hon. Mover was really in earneſt for the honour of the Houſe, he would not have degraded its conſequence by ſo frivolous a motion. And if he was ſo much affected with the grievances of his countrymen in India as he pretended, he would not with another Hon. Member have ſkulked * from his duty on the day of election, and came the next day to complain to the Houſe of a breach of privilege.

Mr Sheridan, in reply, ſaid, he did not think it conſiſtent with his honour to ſtay and give his ballot, when he had from principle oppoſed the bill.

Mr Fox ſupported the motion with ſome heat. On a former occaſion, when he had given into the Houſe the names of ſome of the moſt reſpectable men in the kingdom to be inſerted in his India bill, it was then ſaid that he dictated to parliament. But, had he ſent a liſt of names to Pearſon, what would that have been deemed? The Rt Hon. Gentleman aſked where was the crime? Surely it is a matter of juſt cenſure. The powers of the ſupreme controul, if conſtituted in the moſt impartial manner, were bad enough, and needed no miniſterial aid to make them worſe. He ſupported the motion. And the queſtion being put for Pearſon to be called in, the Houſe divided, Ayes 38, Noes 138.

Mr Sheridan, previous to a motion he was about to make, obſerved, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when, by his Majeſty's command, he laid the eſtimate of the propoſed new fortifications before the Houſe, was expected to have explained the nature of the enquiry, the motives for inſtituting a new board of general officers, the powers with which the board were entruſted, and the manner in which they had proceeded; and the rather, as in the courſe of a former

* This alludes to Mr Fox and Mr Sheridan haſtily quitting the Houſe juſt before the ballot began.

debate,

debate, it had been ſaid, there were points on which the enquiry turned, which were of a nature too delicate to be then ſubmitted to public diſcuſſion; an aſſertion which had ſince been contradicted by an Hon. Member of that board, and a member of this Houſe, [Gen Burgoyne]. He therefore pledged himſelf, that whenever it ſhould be fairly made appear, by the report of the board of land and ſea officers, that the ſyſtem of defence recommended to be adopted was abſolutely neceſſary, he for one would withdraw his oppoſition to the eſtimates. To be aſſured of this neceſſity, was a duty which the Houſe owed the public; for while the Hon. Chancellor of the Exchequer, on account of the ſtate of the finances, heſitated to allow 20,000 l. to render the militia an effective body of defence, ſurely it became Parliament to look with a jealous eye on a plan that was to abſorb ſo large a portion of the public revenue as 700,000 l.*. He then entered into a full inveſtigation of the queſtion; and concluded with moving, "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to order to be laid before this Houſe the names and appointments of the board of land and ſea officers, ſtated in the copy of an eſtimate laid before this Houſe, by his Majeſty's command, to have been appointed under his Majeſty's royal authority, to inveſtigate and report to his Majeſty, on the proper ſyſtem of defence, and on the expediency and efficacy of the propoſed plans for the better ſecuring his Majeſty's dock-yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth, and the direction given to them, with as much of the report of the ſaid board as may be conſiſtent with the public ſafety."

Mr Pitt cloſed with the Hon. Gentleman, as the doubts which he previouſly entertained were done away; and he could now pledge himſelf, that the extracts, which ſhould be ſubmitted, would irrefragably demonſtrate the abſolute neceſſity of the meaſure for the ſafety of the marine, on which our very exiſtence, as a maritime nation, depended. He then adverted to the manner in which the board of enquiry was conſtituted, which was by a letter from Lord Sydney, by his Majeſty's command, to the Duke of Richmond, dated April 8. 1781; and a ſubſequent circular letter from Lord Sydney to the other land and ſea officers, who conſtituted the board, dated April 15. 1785. Such part of the inſtructions as were fit to be made public, he ſaid, he ſhould lay on the table; and when the opinions of theſe experienced officers were ſubmitted to the Houſe, he had not the leaſt doubt but that the Hon. Member would feel full conviction of the propriety of the meaſure; and of this he had ſo fully made up his mind, that he had prepared a motion that differed ſo very little in ſubſtance from that moved by the Hon. Gentleman, that it was very immaterial to him which was adopted. He then read his motion, "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, that he would be graciouſly pleaſed to give directions, that there be laid before this Houſe a copy of a letter from Lord Sydney, dated April 13. 1785, with ſuch extracts from the inſtructions and report of the board of general officers as ſhall be conſiſtent with the public ſafety."

Gen. Burgoyne ſaid, ſuch documents were certainly neceſſary to be laid before Parliament as would warrant the repreſentatives of the people to borrow ſo large a ſum of money as was now demanded. It had been aſſerted, that the board had been unanimous in the report of the eſtimates; but it was on certain *poſtulata* that their unanimity depended. The Noble Duke who preſided over the board, in the military art and in ſcience was ſuperior to moſt men of his profeſſion. He was completely ingenious in forming a principle, from which might be deduced a ſeries of conſequences to a very great extent; and theſe flowed ſo naturally from the firſt principle, that, if that was once admitted, all the reſt muſt of courſe be given alſo; whilſt, at the ſame time, the mind refuſed its aſſent, and reaſon revolted at it. Thus, for inſtance, if ſome violent ſhock of nature ſhould tear up the rocks from the foundation, and make chaſms in the earth; or if, by chance, a concuſſion of nature ſhould block up the ſtreights between Dover and Calais; would it not be natural to propoſe, if it were poſſible, to erect a fortification between the two continents, as a protection againſt the encroachments of an enemy? To this the reply muſt be ſimple in the affirmative, though the mind

* Though no more than 250,000 l. was demanded for the preſent year, yet it appeared by the eſtimates, that 700,000 l. and more would be wanted.

mind held that in the light of an improbability, which it could barely fuppofe might poffibly happen. This mode of defence is novel, and the novelty of our fituation is an apology for arguing upon it. That mode upon which our anceftors relied, and which nature points out to all inſular ſituations for protection, their navy, muſt, for the firſt time, be diſturbed, and a meaſure ſubſtituted, which is pregnant with danger to the conſtitution, policy, and finance of this country —— dangerous to the conſtitution, which has always beheld an internal armed force within itſelf with an eye of jealouſy, and juſtly with diſtruſt. With this ſpecies of conviction has the unanimity of the board been obtained, whoſe report is offered to the Houſe as a ground of expending an enormous ſum of money.

Mr Pitt wondered at the conduct of the Hon General, who had ſubſcribed a report of the firſt conſequence, and, at the ſame time, kept in reſerve objections which he only ſtarted now in oppoſition to his former atteſted opinion. Why did he not diſſent when thoſe refined logical deductions he alludes to were in agitation? He could not imagine that ſo many eminent characters as acted with the Noble Preſident [D. of Richmond], whoſe military talents he ſo highly eſteemed, would have paſſed over ſuch management, without doing that duty to their country, and juſtice to their own underſtandings, which muſt ariſe out of the nature of what occurred to them. As to the Noble Duke's conduct who preſided, he truſted, it would prove itſelf worthy to be held in a more ſerious light when beheld in a nearer view.

Mr Fox did not wonder at the perſuaſive reaſoning of the Noble Duke, who was able often to convey conviction without the leaſt argument. And as to the logical deductions which the Rt Hon. Gentleman oppoſite to him (Mr Pitt) could not ſubſcribe to, he ſhould recollect, that he was bred to a profeſſion, which, by eſtabliſhing a number of hypotheſes that had no exiſtence in truth, but from a ſeeming probability in their connection, concluded in eſtabliſhing a fact by their evidence to which the judgement refuſed its aſſent.

Capt. Bower ſaid, that a number of circumſtances occurred to him that he thought by no means proper to divulge to an enemy; nor ſhould they ever learn from him the vulnerable parts of our coaſts, if any ſuch exiſted.

Capt. M'Bride obſerved, that none ſuch came within his department; nor did it matter if all Europe were acquainted with the fortifications in queſtion, ſo long as our fleets were kept upon a reſpectable footing.

Mr Pitt's motion, on Mr Sheridan's being withdrawn, was agreed to; and

Mr Courtenay immediately moved, That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, that there be laid before the Houſe an eſtimate of the expences of the engineers, &c. in purſuance of thoſe orders and reports, &c. The ſame was reſolved in the affirmative.

Feb. 17. in a committee of ſupply, the malt-tax and land tax bills were read.

The new bill for preventing the exportation of hay, for a limited time, [a year], was read a third time.

Lord Surrey wiſhed to know the cauſes that rendered the bill expedient.

Sir R. Smyth anſwered, that the price of hay in moſt parts of the kingdom was 4l. 15s and 5l. the ton, and in Devonſhire 7l.; yet, as it was ſo high as 9l. in France, a renewal of the bill was abſolutely neceſſary; and there could be no danger, under the circumſtances of the largeſt crop, of extending the bill to a year, as a diſpenſing power was lodged in the Crown, which would remedy any inconvenience that might ariſe.

The papers on the ſubject of fortification being brought up, and read,

Mr Pitt moved, That they may be printed, with an excluſion of certain eſtimates, the publication of which, as they contained the preciſe dimenſions of the new intended erections, may be attended with ſome injurious conſequences.

Mr Courtenay, who moved for thoſe eſtimates, having agreed, it was ordered.

[In the Magazine for Jan. 1785, p. 52. our readers will ſee an account of the conſecration of Dr Samuel Seabury, of Connecticut in America, at Aberdeen, by the Biſhops of the Epiſcopal Church of Scotland.——This event gave riſe to a correſpondence in the Gentleman's Magazine, from which, as the ſubject may be ſaid to be new, we ſelect four of the Letters, containing the principal part of the argument.]

L. L. *to the Editor of the Gentleman's Magazine.*

SIR,

ONE of your correſpondents, in the Magazine for February, is pleaſed to ſpeak

ſpeak of the appointment (as he calls it) of the Rev. Dr Samuel Seabury to the Biſhoprick of Connecticut in America, as a great event. That they who have nothing to give ſhould beſtow mitres, or even empires, is by no means ſufficient to excite the wonder of any man, who obſerves but a ſmall part of the tranſactions daily carried on in a world which is many ſtages ſhort of perfection. When the Tempter made an offer of "the kingdoms of this world, and the glory of them," he had no title even to a ſingle acre; and in the walks of common life none are ſo liberal, and even profuſe in their entertainments, as the man, who finding himſelf on the verge of breaking for a large ſum, expends not his own money, but regales his gueſts with that of his creditors. How came the *anonymous* Scots Biſhop, who publiſhes the conſecration ſermon, by his own title*? Or if he had one, how could he confer it on another, without the authority of his Sovereign†? You or I might with juſt as much propriety go cap in hand to your neighbour the landlord of the Devil Tavern, requeſt him to confer on us the honour of knighthood, and, in order to ſatisfy his conſcience, quote the example of Don Quixote, as this ſage prelate does that of the apoſtles.

The laws of Scotland have excluded all Epiſcopacy; but, it ſeems, the race of thoſe Non-Jurors, whoſe principles have ever been inimical to the preſent illuſtrious family on the Britiſh throne, have maintained an ideal ſucceſſion of eccleſiaſtical dignities on the north of the Tweed. Dr Samuel Seabury may, for aught I know, poſſeſs, in as eminent a degree as any of thoſe prelates he now conſiders himſelf on an equal footing with, the moral virtues of the apoſtles; they conſiſt not in numerous retinue of ſervants, or in coaches decorated with mitres, but may as probably be found in an itinerant dioceſan as in him who occupies the moſt ſplendid palace. But ſurely it required only a ſmall portion of the ſerpent's wiſdom, (one ſpecies of which, though perhaps not that recommended in Scripture, moſt modern biſhops poſſeſs in an eminent degree) to have ſuggeſted to him, that the colonies, who lately ſhook off the dominion of their mother-country, will not be diſpoſed to yield much reverence to the ſuffragan of thoſe mighty prelates‡, whom a law, enacted in 1748, prohibited from ordaining even a ſingle deacon.

In ſome future Magazine, I hope you will be able to favour the public with a hiſtory of Biſhop Seabury's adventures after croſſing the Atlantic; you will by that time be able to determine, whether they are better calculated for furniſhing an additional chapter to the *Legenda Sanctorum*, or a third act to the farce of Sancho's government in the iſland of Barataria.

Unconnected with ſects or parties, I muſt, in the mean time, beg leave to make a few ſhort remarks on the different conduct of the Preſbyterians on the ſouth, and the Epiſcopalians on the north of the Tweed; both equally *Diſſenters*, both equally indebted for many privileges and comforts to the tolerating ſpirit of the age and country in which they live‖: the *former* ſtrive not to diſtinguiſh themſelves by any claims to ſuperior rank**, but reſt content with the modern appellation of Diſſenting Clergymen; while the *latter*, graſping as it were at the united privileges both of the crown and crozier, not only affect to poſſeſs, but even to confer, the higheſt eccleſiaſtical juriſdiction; the *former* aſpire to no authority beyond the guidance of a flock which voluntarily elects them for its paſtors††; the *latter* not only trace an ideal pedigree from the apoſtles, but aſſume to themſelves names the moſt oſtentatious, treating the eſtabliſhment of that country in which they are tolerated with the moſt ſovereign contempt. The *former* officiate at their meeting-houſes, without ever dreaming of ſuch audacioufneſs as the taking up any aboliſhed and diſallowed title‡‡; among the *latter*,

* *Anſ.* By the conſecration of other Biſhops.

† Biſhops (as ſuch) may conſecrate biſhops, and convey ſpiritual juriſdiction, though they can give no temporal powers, or exempt from temporal penalties.

‡ The Epiſcopalians doubtleſs will revere the Superior whom they have recommended and choſen.

‖ This will not be allowed by the latter, who are now ſubjected to more ſevere pains and penalties than the Papiſts.

** How can they, as Preſbyterians?

†† The Scotch biſhops are alſo elected by their reſpective flocks. And ſo was Biſhop Seabury by 30,000 Epiſcopalians in Connecticut.

‡‡ No ſurely. They cannot, nor wiſh to be more than Preſbyters.

it

it ſeems, there are ſtill to be found Archbiſhops of St Andrews *, though the fabric of its cathedral was not more effectually demoliſhed by John Knox, that great deliverer of his country from religious thraldom †, who left behind him a name ſuperior to all titles; than the very exiſtence of its pretended metropolitan has ſince been annihilated by the act of Union, whereby the preſent reſpectable and ſalutary eſtabliſhment of religion in Scotland was planted on a baſis too firm to be ſhaken by the unfated rapaciouſneſs of any prelate. The *former* gave unequivocal proofs of their loyalty in ſupporting the Houſe of Brunſwick, amidſt two foul and unnatural rebellions; as to the *latter*, having heard nothing of their conduct during thoſe periods, candour obliges me to infer that they obſerved a ſtrict neutrality.

In the courſe of my life, I have read many vehement declamations againſt Puritans; I have alſo heard much, as well as ſeen, ſomewhat of the cant and fanaticiſm of ſectaries in our ſouthern part of the iſland; cant and fanaticiſm I by no means wiſh to vindicate, for where-ever they are found in any conſpicuous degree, they have certainly a tendency to make individuals, and ſometimes whole bodies of men, ridiculous, if not, through their ſides, to wound even religion itſelf: but after all that has been urged by Biſhop Stillingfleet, in his Treatiſe on Separation, which is evidently levelled at the Preſbyterians who will not conform to the worſhip of the Church of England, I am ſtill firmly of opinion, that there is no ſpecies of ſeparation from eſtabliſhments ſo dangerous, or which ſo evidently requires a jealous attention from the rulers of a Proteſtant community to reſtrain within ſome proper limits, as that which, by aſſuming to itſelf not only undue titles, but claims of divine right, exhibits ſo ſtriking a reſemblance to the Church of Rome, that ſpiritual Babylon in the Apocalypſe ‡.

Your conſtant reader, L. L.

* Not ſo. The Scotch Epiſcopalians have *no Arch*biſhop. The See of St Andrew is now ſubordinate to that of Edinburgh.

† This ſtrikes at *all* Epiſcopacy, in England as well as Scotland. *Ex pede*, &c.

‡ The above being ſhewn to a friend in MS. he deſired to add the notes. [*Edit. of Gent. Mag.*]

Anſwer, by "An Epiſcopal Clergyman of the Scotch Church."

SIR,

IN this land of liberty, the ſpirit of toleration is now ſo univerſally diffuſed among all denominations of Chriſtians, that I was never more ſurpriſed than by the angry reflections of a late correſpondent of yours, [L. L.], on the conſecration of Dr Seabury. Had that gentleman been ſent acroſs the Atlantic, for no other purpoſe than to propagate in the new world vice and infidelity, his miſſion could not have excited in the breaſt of a good man greater indignation, than his advancement to the Epiſcopal dignity by the Scotch prelates ſeems to have raiſed in the intolerant breaſt of your correſpondent.

That the *Eſtabliſhed* church of Scotland has, both before and ſince the revolt of the colonies, ſent miſſionaries into America, is a fact well known; that the Engliſh *Diſſenters* have done the ſame, I have been credibly informed, and have not a doubt; that either the one ſociety, or the other, acted by the authority of their ſovereign, I never heard ſuppoſed; and yet, ſo far as I know, neither of them has been accuſed of acting criminally.

While the colonies continued ſubject to the mother-country, the Scotch biſhops did not interfere, in any manner, either with their civil or their eccleſiaſtical affairs: for ſuch interference, they were ſenſible, there was no occaſion. The Epiſcopalians of Britiſh America were ſupplied with clergymen by the biſhops of that church which has hitherto been, and which, in ſpite of the revilings of anonymous ſcribblers, it is hoped will continue to be, "the glory of the Reformation." Even after the colonies were declared independent, and were as alien from Great Britain as Japan and China, the prelates in Scotland, whom your correſpondent would fain repreſent as the moſt aſpiring of men, did not *volunteer* in the cauſe of Epiſcopacy; they did not ſend into any of the United States one of *their own body* to take upon himſelf the eccleſiaſtical government of that ſtate; they well knew that they were looked upon with a jealous eye; and therefore they cautiouſly avoided a meaſure which might have awakened the dormant rage of their numerous enemies. But when a clergyman from Connecticut, warmly recommended by his brethren in that province,

vince, requeſted them to inveſt him with the Epiſcopal character, they did not imagine, that by complying with his requeſt they ſhould give to any man greater offence than the Preſbyterian miniſters of Scotland or England had given by ſending into America miſſionaries of *their* order. Over the ſtate of Connecticut the Scotch biſhops were never ſo abſurd as to claim any kind of juriſdiction; but to have *refuſed* to confer upon a clergyman of that ſtate a character, which in their opinion is eſſential to the very being of a church, would have been to circumſcribe, as much as they could, the limits of their great Maſter's vineyard.

That Epiſcopacy is eſſential to the being of a church, is an opinion very offenſive to your correſpondent, and to all who have thrown off that form of eccleſiaſtical government. In holding that opinion, it is *poſſible* that the Scotch Epiſcopalians may hold an error; but as it is an error which was held by St Cyprian, and "the noble army of martyrs," before the kingdoms of this world became the kingdom of Chriſt, they hope it is ſuch as may obtain forgiveneſs from their "Father who is in heaven," as they know that it cannot injure their brethren who are upon earth. Did they indeed, with a certain "reſpectable and ſalutary eſtabliſhment of religion," maintain, that thoſe who are not in the church cannot be ſaved *, their opinion, that Epiſcopacy is eſſential to the being of a church, would not, without reaſon, be very generally offenſive; but while they preſume not to limit the mercy of God, the tenderneſs of which "is over all his works," it is not eaſy to conceive why they may not, without offence, hold the divine right of Epiſcopacy, as well as a Preſbyterian holds the divine right of Preſbytery, or an Independent the common rights of Chriſtians.

"The laws of Scotland," however, ſays your correſpondent, "have excluded all Epiſcopacy;" and therefore he ſeems to think, that there can be now no biſhop on the north of the Tweed. But if the office of a biſhop was inſtituted by the apoſtles, and that it was the Scotch Nonjurors think there is abundant evidence, I am humbly of opinion, that it cannot be "excluded" by any human legiſlature; nor do I think it clear, that any power inherent in the office can be taken away by any authority but that by which it was originally given. The Scotch convention which voted Epiſcopacy a *grievance*, might likewiſe have voted Chriſtianity a grievance, and have eſtabliſhed the religion of Mahomet in its ſtead; but Chriſtianity would not, in conſequence of that vote, have become a falſe, nor Iſhmaelitiſm a true religion; an act of convention could not have made the Bible a collection of fables, nor the fictions of the Koran the truths of God.

At the Revolution the Scotch biſhops were deprived of their titles of honour, and of all legal juriſdiction, by an act of parliament, and for *that* deprivation an act of parliament was certainly competent; but the powers of preaching, of adminiſtering the ſacraments, and of "ſending labourers into Chriſt's vineyard," as they were received from no human authority, by no human authority could be taken away. After their deprivation, they were indeed no longer peers of parliament, intitled to the appellation of their *Graces* and their *Lordſhips*; but they continued to be biſhops of the Catholic Church, as much as when poſſeſſed of their cathedrals and eſtabliſhment. When deſtitute of every worldly comfort, and, like their Divine Maſter while he ſojourned upon earth, often "without a place where to lay their heads," they were as capable of conferring upon others the Epiſcopal character, as when in poſſeſſion of their dignities and revenues; and from them, by a regular ſucceſſion, has that character been conveyed down to the "anonymous biſhop who publiſhes the conſecration-ſermon," and at whom your correſpondent ſeems to have taken a moſt unreaſonable diſlike. Had his diſlike been expreſſed to the *ſermon* alone, it would not perhaps have deſerved that epithet. Some parts of that diſcourſe are as little approved by the generality of Epiſcopalians in Scotland, as they can be by thoſe in England; but the candid in both countries will reflect, that the merits of the preacher are diſtinct from the claims of the biſhop.

So far are the Rt Rev. Author and his colleagues

* "They, who, having NEVER HEARD the Goſpel, know not Jeſus Chriſt, and believe not on him, CANNOT BE SAVED, be they NEVER SO DILIGENT to frame their lives according to the LIGHT OF NATURE, or the laws of the religion which they profeſs; neither is there ſalvation in any other but in Chriſt alone, who is the Saviour ONLY of his body, the church." *Larger Catechiſm of the Aſſembly of Divines at Weſtminſter, approved by the General Aſſembly of the Kirk of Scotland.*

colleagues from "graſping (as this libeller alledges) at the united privileges both of the crown and crozier," that theſe deſpiſed and perſecuted men "graſp" at nothing but the ſpiritual guidance of ſuch Chriſtians as believe Epiſcopal orders to be neceſſary to the valid adminiſtration of the ſacraments, and who, in conſequence of that belief, *voluntarily* put themſelves under their direction. Unconnected, by their ſituation, with every kind of civil policy, they are ſo far from "aſſuming to themſelves names the moſt oſtentatious," that, as your well informed annotator has juſtly obſerved, there is among the Scotch Epiſcopalians "no archbiſhop;" the eldeſt prelate, whoever he is, preſides among his brethren, and is ſtyled *Primus Epiſcopus*, or, more ſhortly, *Primus*; the very title of *Primate* being laid aſide, leſt it ſhould raiſe in the breaſts of the evil-minded ill-grounded ſuſpicions of an authority claimed from a ſource which could not fail to make it offenſive.

In England every claſs of *Preſbyterian miniſters* aſſumes, I ſuppoſe, authority to ordain paſtors, and to exclude from their communion ſcandalous offenders. Except the privilege of adminiſtering the right of confirmation, nothing beyond this is claimed by a biſhop in Scotland; and although, in the opinion of an Engliſh diſſenter, confirmation may be deemed a ſuperſtitious rite, there is ſurely nothing in it which can injure ſociety, or at which the ſtate has cauſe to be alarmed.

"The eſtabliſhment of that country in which they are" *connived at* (for your correſpondent miſtakes when he ſuppoſes them to be *tolerated*) the Scotch Epiſcopalians treat with no other "contempt" than what is neceſſarily implied in their diſſenting from it. Although, like the church of England, they admit not of Preſbyterian orders, I do not think that the moſt intemperate of them had ever the inſolence to compare that kind of ordination to "the knighthood of Don Quixote," or the ordainers to "the Tempter making an offer of the kingdoms of this world, and the glory of them, when he had no title even to a ſingle acre;" or to brand the eſtabliſhed miniſters, as this writer has branded "moſt modern biſhops" with "poſſeſſing in an eminent degree the wiſdom of the ſerpent, though *not* that ſpecies of it recommended in ſcripture."

"But of the ſerpent's wiſdom," he ſays, "it required only a very ſmall portion to have ſuggeſted to Dr Seabury, that the colonies, who lately ſhook off the dominion of the mother-country, will not be diſpoſed to yield much reverence to the ſuffragan of thoſe mighty prelates, whom a law, enacted in 1748, prohibited from ordaining even a ſingle deacon." Dr Seabury is called "the ſuffragan of thoſe mighty prelates," for the purpoſe, I preſume, of raiſing againſt them the hand of power—that *pious* purpoſe, which this writer has ſo zealouſly laboured through the whole of his abuſive letter; but I truſt in the lenity of government, that his aim will prove as unſucceſsful as it is cruel and unchriſtian, when it is known, that over the American biſhop theſe "mighty prelates" claim no ſuperiority. Whether the Epiſcopalians in Connecticut "will yield" due "reverence" to the dioceſan whom they have *choſen*, time alone can determine; but they have already declared, that of the validity of Scotch conſecration they entertain not a doubt; and that to them it was a matter of perfect indifference through what channel they ſhould obtain a valid Epiſcopacy, which *they*, as well as the *wicked Non-jurors*, think can be derived only from the apoſtles, independent of every *human* authority.

Had Dr Seabury been conſecrated at Lambeth by that accompliſhed prelate, under whoſe primacy the Engliſh church is now ſo happy, his conſecration would doubtleſs have been attended with greater pomp and ſolemnity; but it is by no means evident, that his reception on the other ſide of the Atlantic would have been better, than with the conſecration which he has received from the Scotch biſhops. Ever ſince their independence, the Americans have ſhewn themſelves ſufficiently jealous of a renewal of the claims of Britain to the ſovereignty of their country; and had a biſhop been ſent thither by the church of England, there poſſibly would not have been wanting ſuch writers as your correſpondent, to ſound the alarm, however unjuſtly, of England's ſtill claiming ſome kind of ſuperiority over the United States, of which the conſequence to Epiſcopacy might have been fatal. But that a few biſhops, who neither poſſeſs nor arrogate to themſelves any power, or *legal* juriſdiction, in their *own* country, ſhould claim any kind of ſuperiority over a *foreign* ſtate, no man can be ſo abſurd as to imagine, and

therefore

therefore it may be hoped that *their* miſſionary will be permitted to perform his Epiſcopal offices in peace.

The law to which your correſpondent refers, and in which he ſeems ſo much to rejoice, ſevere as I cannot but deem it, pretends not to *nullify* orders conferred by the Scotch biſhops; it only renders thoſe who are ſo ordained incapable of holding any living or preferment in England; and ſubjects them, if they ſhall officiate, in Scotland, to a greater number at once than *four*, to impriſonment for the firſt and ſecond offence, and for the third to the puniſhment of tranſportation. Were a law to be enacted, prohibiting Engliſh diſſenters from marriage, it would no doubt (within the dominion of England) ſufficiently preclude the children of ſuch diſſenters as ſhould *afterwards* marry from the rights of *legal* children; but ſurely no one imagines that it would have force to render ſuch marriages abſolutely unfruitful; or the children of them incapable of being conſidered as legitimate in foreign countries. If human laws cannot abrogate the laws of nature, neither can they render inefficacious the inſtitutions of grace; if the reſtraints laid in one country upon the exerciſe of man's natural rights, in another are not binding, neither are thoſe binding which are laid upon the exerciſe of religion.

That the framers of the law enacted in 1748 meant well, I ſhall not controvert; but the conſequences of that law have not been beneficial. It was, no doubt, *intended* to cruſh diſaffection to the government; but I know nothing which it has *really* cruſhed but religion, as it has driven out of the *Epiſcopal* church many perſons of conſequence, whoſe principles, or prejudices, will not allow them to communicate with *another*. At the period when it was enacted, the ſpecies of diſaffection which it was meant to eradicate, was not confined to *one* denomination of Chriſtians; at preſent it has hardly a place among *any*; and the little that may remain among a very few old people, an event daily to be expected will certainly baniſh. At any rate, thoſe who have given to government the ſecurity of oaths for their allegiance, would not, one ſhould think, be in danger of violating thoſe oaths, *merely* for being allowed the public exerciſe of religion; and the Scotch biſhops have never taught politics, nor made political opinions terms of their communion. Whatever truth there may formerly have been in the charge of diſaffection, ſo often brought againſt theſe perſecuted prelates, it ſeems not to be renewed with much propriety on the occaſion of their conſecrating Dr Seabury. That gentleman, they all know, acknowledges the legality of the *preſent* government of the ſtate of Connecticut, and conſequently of *that legiſlature* which declared the colonies independent: as this was made no objection to his conſecration, I think it is hardly fair in your correſpondent to conclude, that the principles of the biſhops by whom he was conſecrated are "inimical to the illuſtrious family on the Britiſh throne." If this letter-writer be a diſſenting teacher, which, by his injurious reflection upon "modern biſhops," he appears to be, it ſurely was not generous in him, ſecure as he is in a legal toleration, to call thus loudly for the ſeverity of government on a harmleſs ſociety of Chriſtians, over whoſe heads the weight of penal laws is ſtill ſuſpended. I do not envy the Engliſh diſſenters the liberty afforded them to worſhip God according to their conſciences. May they long enjoy it! may they long deſerve to enjoy it! for it is the undoubted right of every man. But while all ſects (even ſuch as "deny the Lord who bought them") enjoy the privilege of a free toleration, I hope it will not be deemed improper repining, if I think it *hard*, that the only denomination of Proteſtants excluded from that privilege, is a ſociety which agrees with the church of England in doctrine, in diſcipline, and in worſhip. If, under the impreſſion of feelings, which this reflection muſt naturally produce, I have expreſſed myſelf with undue acrimony againſt the reviler of the ſociety to which I belong, I aſk his and your pardon, for I know that my duty is not to "render evil for evil, or railing for railing; but, contrariwiſe, bleſſing." I ſhall, therefore, conclude this long letter with the words of an ancient Chriſtian, in circumſtances differing little from mine: "*Da veniam, Rex ſumme, tuos perſequentibus famulos; et, quod tuæ benignitatis proprium, fugientibus ignoſce tui nominis et religionis cultum.*" — So prays, Sir,

An Epiſcopal Clergyman of the Scotch Church.*

[To be continued.]

* We think the correſpondence of this learned writer an honour, and ſhall be happy in the continuance of it. *Sit anima noſtra cum ſua!* [*Edit. of Gent. Mag.*]

NEW

NEW BOOKS.

The Hiſtory of Ancient Greece, its Colonies, and Conqueſts, from the earlieſt Accounts till the Diviſion of the Macedonian Empire in the Eaſt: including the Hiſtory of Literature, Philoſophy, and the Fine Arts. By John Gillies, LL. D. 2 vols. 4to, with Maps, and a complete Index. 2l. 2s. in boards. Cadell.

WE congratulate the public on the appearance of this intereſting work, by which, we are perſuaded, the expectation of the learned will be amply gratified. Inſtead of treating the important ſeries of Grecian ſtory in the broken and unconnected manner in which it has hitherto been recorded, Dr Gillies has followed the general revolutions of the Grecian confederacy, which, though always looſe and imperfect, was never altogether diſſolved, and by employing the aſſiſtance of authors ſeldom read, and not frequently conſulted for hiſtorical materials, has been enabled to combine with the public tranſactions of the nation at large the deſcription and particular revolutions of each independent republic; an undertaking, as he juſtly obſerves, "difficult indeed, and new, yet evidently well calculated to anſwer the great purpoſes of inſtruction and entertainment."

In the view which the author has taken of his ſubject, the fluctuation of public affairs, and the viciſſitudes of war and fortune, form not the moſt important object of Grecian hiſtory.—The arts and ſciences, the literature and philoſophy, which diſtinguiſhed and ennobled Greece, are treated in a manner more diſtinct and ſatisfactory than in any performance hitherto offered to the world on thoſe intereſting topics. In the work throughout, the author ventures to think for himſelf: he is warmed and elevated by his ſubject, of which he feels the dignity.—As ſpecimens of the ſtyle and ſentiments of this nervous and manly writer, we ſhall ſelect the two following paſſages.

"Such was the preparation of materials which the ſmalleſt ſpark might throw into combuſtion. But before we relate the events which immediately occaſioned the memorable war of twenty-ſeven years, it is impoſſible (if the calamities of our own times have taught us to compaſſionate the miſerable) not to drop a tear over the continual diſaſters which ſo long and ſo cruelly afflicted the moſt valuable and enlightened portion of mankind, and whoſe immortal genius was deſtined to enlighten the remoteſt ages of the world. When rude illiterate peaſants are ſummoned to mutual hoſtility, and, unaffected by perſonal motives of intereſt or honour, expend their ſtrength and blood to gratify the ſordid ambition of their reſpective tyrants, we may lament the general ſtupidity and wretchedneſs of human nature; but we cannot heartily ſympathiſe with men who have ſo little ſenſibility, nor very deeply and feelingly regret, that thoſe ſhould ſuffer pain, who ſeem both unwilling and incapable to reliſh pleaſure. Their heavy unmeaning aſpect, their barbarous language, and more barbarous manners, together with their total indifference to the objects and purſuits which form the dignity and glory of man; theſe circumſtances, interrupting the ordinary courſe of our ſentiments, divert or repel the natural current of ſympathy. Their victories or defeats are contemplated without emotion, coldly related, and read without intereſt or concern. But the war of Peloponneſus preſents a different ſpectacle. The adverſe parties took arms, not to ſupport the unjuſt pretenſions of a tyrant, whom they had reaſon to hate or to deſpiſe, but to vindicate their civil rights, and to maintain their political independence. The meaneſt Grecian ſoldier knew the duties of the citizen, the magiſtrate, and the general. His life had been equally divided between the moſt agreeable amuſements of leiſure, and the moſt honourable employments of activity. Trained to thoſe exerciſes and accompliſhments which give ſtrength and agility to the limbs, beauty to the ſhape, and grace to the motions, the dignity of his external appearance announced the liberal greatneſs of his mind; and his language, the moſt harmonious and expreſſive ever ſpoken by man, comprehended all that variety of conception, and all thoſe ſhades of ſentiment, that characteriſe the moſt exalted perfection of human manners.

Ennobled by ſuch actors, the ſcene itſelf was highly important, involving not only the ſtates of Greece, but the greateſt of the neighbouring kingdoms; and, together with the extent of a foreign war, exhibiting the intenſeneſs of domeſtic ſedition. As it exceeded the ordinary duration of human power or reſentment, it was accompanied with unuſual circumſtances of terror, which, to the pious credulity of an unfortunate age, naturally announced

announced the wrath of Heaven, juſtly provoked by human cruelty. While peſtilence and famine multiplied the actual ſufferings, eclipſes and earthquakes increaſed the conſternation and horror of that lamentable period. Several warlike communities were expelled from their hereditary poſſeſſions; others were not only driven from Greece, but utterly extirpated from the earth; ſome fell a prey to party rage, others to the vengeance of foreign enemies; ſome were ſlowly exhauſted by the contagion of a malignant atmoſphere, others overwhelmed at once by ſudden violence; whilſt the combined weight of calamity aſſailed the power of Athens, and precipitated the downfall of that republic from the pride of proſperous dominion, to the dejection of dependence and miſery."——

"In the populous and extenſive kingdoms of modern Europe, the revolutions of public affairs ſeldom diſturb the humble obſcurity of private life; but the national tranſactions of Greece involved the intereſt of every family, and deeply affected the fortune and happineſs of every individual. Had the arms of the Athenians proved ſucceſsful in Sicily, each citizen would have derived from that event an immediate acceſſion of wealth, as well as of power, and have felt a proportional increaſe of honour and ſecurity. But their proud hopes periſhed for ever in the harbour of Syracuſe. The ſucceeding diſaſters ſhook to the foundation the fabric of their empire. In one raſh enterpriſe they loſt their army, their fleet, the prudence of their experienced generals, and the flouriſhing vigour of their manly youth.——Irreparable diſaſters! which totally diſabled them to reſiſt the confederacy of Peloponneſus, reinforced by the reſentment of a new and powerful enemy. While a Lacedæmonian army inveſted their city, they had reaſon to dread that a Syracuſan fleet ſhould aſſault the Pyræus: that Athens muſt finally yield to theſe combined attacks; and her once proſperous citizens, deſtroyed by the ſword, or dragged into captivity, atone by their death or diſgrace for the cruelties which they had recently inflicted on the wretched republics of Melos and Scioné.

The dreadful alternative of victory and defeat renders it little ſurpriſing that the Athenians ſhould have rejected intelligence, which they muſt have received with horror. The firſt meſſengers of ſuch ſad news were treated with contempt: but it was impoſſible long to with-hold belief from the miſerable fugitives, whoſe ſqualid and dejected countenances too faithfully atteſted the public calamity. Such evidence could not be refuſed; the arrogance of incredulity was abaſhed, and the whole republic thrown into conſternation, or ſeized with deſpair. The venerable members of the Areopagus expreſſed the majeſty of ſilent ſorrow; but the piercing cries of woe extended many a mile along the lofty walls which joined the Piræus to the city, and the licentious populace raged with unbridled fury againſt the diviners and orators, whoſe blind predictions, and ambitious harangues, had promoted an expedition eternally fatal to their country.

The diſtreſs of the Athenians was too great to admit the comfort of ſympathy; but, had they been capable of receiving, they had little reaſon to expect that melancholy conſolation. The tidings ſo afflicting to *them* gave unſpeakable joy to their neighbours; many feared, moſt hated, and all envied a people who had long uſurped the dominion of Greece. The Athenian allies, or rather ſubjects, ſcattered over ſo many coaſts and iſlands, prepared to aſſert their independence; the confederates of Sparta, among whom the Syracuſans juſtly aſſumed the firſt rank, were unſatisfied with victory, and longed for revenge: even thoſe communities which had hitherto declined the danger of a doubtful conteſt, meanly ſolicited to become parties in a war which they expected muſt finally terminate in the deſtruction of Athens.

Should all the efforts of ſuch a powerful confederacy ſtill prove inſufficient to accompliſh the ruin of the devoted city, there was yet another enemy behind, from whoſe ſtrength and animoſity the Athenians had every thing to fear. The long and peaceful reign of Artaxerxes, king of Perſia, expired 425 years before the Chriſtian æra. The two following years were remarkable for a rapid ſucceſſion of kings, Xerxes, Sogdianus, Ochus; the laſt of whom aſſumed the name of Darius, to which hiſtorians have added the epithet of Nothus, the baſtard, to diſtinguiſh this effeminate prince from his illuſtrious predeceſſor. The firſt years of Darius Nothus were employed in confirming his diſputed authority, and in watching the dangerous intrigues

trigues of his numerous kinſmen who aſpired to the throne. When every rival was removed that could either diſturb his quiet, or offend his ſuſpicion, the monarch ſunk into an indolent ſecurity, and his voluptuous court was governed by the feeble adminiſtration of women and eunuchs. But in the ninth year of his reign Darius was rouſed from his lethargy by the revolt of Egypt and Lydia. The defection of the latter threatened to tear from his dominion the valuable provinces of Aſia Minor; a conſequence which he determined to prevent by employing the bravery of Pharnabazus, and the policy of the crafty Tiſſaphernes, to govern reſpectively the northern and ſouthern diſtricts of that rich and fertile peninſula. The abilities of theſe generals not only quelled the rebellion of Lydia, but extended the arms of their maſter towards the ſhores of the Ægean, as well as of the Helleſpont and Propontis; in direct oppoſition to the treaty which forty years before had been ratified between the Athenians, then in the height of their proſperity, and the unwarlike Artaxerxes. But the recent misfortunes of that ambitious people flattered the Perſian commanders with the hope of reſtoring the whole Aſiatic coaſt to the great king, as well as of taking exemplary puniſhment on the proud city, which had reſiſted the power, diſmembered the empire, and tarniſhed the glory of Perſia.

The terror of ſuch a formidable combination might have reduced the Athenians to deſpair; and our ſurpriſe that this conſequence ſhould not immediately follow, will be increaſed by the following reflection: Not to mention the immortal trophies of Alexander, or the extenſive ravages of Zingis Khan, Tamerlane, and the Tartar princes of their race; the Spaniards, the Portugueſe, and other nations of modern Europe, have, with a handful of men, marched victorious over the effeminate or barbarous coaſts of the eaſtern and weſtern world. The hardy diſcipline of Europe eaſily prevailed over the unwarlike ſoftneſs of India, and the ſavage ignorance of America. But the rapid ſucceſs of all theſe conquerors was owing to their military knowledge and experience. By the ſuperiority of their arms and of their diſcipline, the Romans ſubdued the nations of the earth. But the Athenians afford the only example of a people, who, by the virtues of the mind alone, acquired an extenſive dominion over men equally improved with themſelves in the arts of war and government. They poſſeſſed, or were believed to poſſeſs, ſuperior courage and capacity to the nations around them; and this opinion, which ſhould ſeem not entirely deſtitute of foundation, enabled them to maintain, by very feeble garriſons, an abſolute authority in the iſlands of the Ægean, as well as in the cities of the Aſiatic coaſt. Their diſaſters and diſgrace in Sicily deſtroyed at once the real and the ideal ſupports of their power; the loſs of one third of their citizens made it impoſſible to ſupply, with freſh recruits, the exhauſted ſtrength of their garriſons in foreign parts; the terror of their fleet was no more; and their multiplied defeats before the walls of Syracuſe had converted into contempt that admiration in which Athens had been long held by Greeks and Barbarians.

But in free governments there are many latent reſources which public calamities alone can bring to light; and adverſity, which, to individuals endowed with inborn vigour of mind, is the great ſchool of virtue and of heroiſm, furniſhes alſo to the enthuſiaſm of popular aſſemblies the nobleſt field for the diſplay of national honour and magnanimity. Had the meaſures of the Athenians depended on one man, or even on a few, it is probable that the ſelfiſh timidity of a prince, and the cautious prudence of a council, would have ſunk under the weight of misfortunes, too heavy for the unſupported ſtrength of ordinary minds. But the firſt ſpark of generous ardour, which the love of virtue, of glory, and the republic, or even the meaner motives of ambition and vanity, excited in the aſſembled multitude, was diffuſed and increaſed by the natural contagion of ſympathy; the patriotic flame was communicated to every breaſt; and the ſocial warmth, reflected from ſuch a variety of objects, became too intenſe to be reſiſted by the coldneſs of caution, and the damps of deſpair."

It is not from particular paſſages that we can form an idea of the principal merit of this valuable work, which, we doubt not, will ſerve in future as an Hiſtory of Ancient Greece, not only for England, but for Europe. The connection of the ſeveral parts, the ſtrong light which they reflect on each other, and the juſt arrangement of the whole, pro-

Dr Gillies's performance to be the ripened fruits of much time and labour. Amidſt the vaſt variety of objects civil and military, laws, arts, literature, and philoſophy, which enter into the plan of this hiſtory, each article is treated with ſuch perſpicuity and fullneſs, that, when we conſider it apart, we are apt to imagine it the favourite topic of the writer. The ſtyle varies with the ſubject; perſpicuous and flowing in narrative, ornamented in deſcription, lofty on great occaſions, and affecting in ſcenes of diſtreſs. Conſcious that diction is valuable only as a tranſcript of thought, Dr Gillies has not feared to expoſe himſelf to the frivolous imputation of inequality of ſtyle. A ſimilar motive appears to have encouraged him to revive the ancient practice of compoſing ſpeeches for his generals and ſtatemen; a circumſtance which, as eloquence once formed a powerful engine both of war and government, renders his work a more faithful picture, than it could otherwiſe have been, of the times and manners which he deſcribes. In quitting the beaten track purſued by the moſt approved Engliſh and French hiſtorians, (for thoſe of other nations ſtill follow the example of antiquity), Dr Gillies ſeems fully aware, that much circumſpection was neceſſary, and that the boldneſs of the deſign could only be juſtified by the vigour of execution. His ſpeeches, therefore, are ſeaſonably introduced, compoſed with uncommon elegance, and, for the moſt part, diſtinguiſhed by a pregnant brevity. *Gent. Mag.*

The Increaſe of Manufactures, Commerce, and Finance, with the extenſion of Civil Liberty, propoſed in Regulations for the Intereſt of Money. 4to. 6 s. *boards.* Robinſon.

THE writer of this work, after ſhewing that the wealth of a nation depends upon trade and induſtry, and in cenſuring the reſtrictions which the Britiſh law has laid upon the intereſt of money, begins to unfold his project; by which he propoſes to provide encouragement for manufactures, to extend the commerce of his country, to furniſh new ſources of revenue, and to enlarge the civil liberties of his fellow-citizens. His plan is briefly this: That a bank ſhould be opened, under the protection of government, in which money ſhould be lent to individuals, or private companies of traders, at different rates of intereſt, according to the different degrees of hazard attending ſuch loans. But that we may not do injuſtice to a plan from which the projector expects great public benefit, we ſhall give it in his own words.

"When money is lent on undoubted ſecurity, the borrower pays, firſt, the intereſt of the money borrowed; and, 2dly, for the trouble of tranſacting the loan. As to the intereſt of the loan, it is always, in all caſes, exactly proportioned to the extent of the ſum borrowed. But it is not ſo with reſpect to the trouble of tranſacting the buſineſs of the loan: for, in borrowing one hundred pounds for the ſpace of only one year, there is almoſt as much trouble as in borrowing ten thouſand pounds for ten years. Hence the lending of ſmall ſums is leſs advantageous than that of lending great ones.

In granting loans on doubtful ſecurity, there is, beſides the two above-mentioned expences, a third, not indeed certain, but contingent; namely, the expence of a riſk of loſs which may attend it.

The true principle, then, of a fair loan, without adhering either to law or cuſtom, would be, as in the following inſtance:

	£.	s.	d.
Capital ſum lent, -	1000	0	0
Intereſt at five per cent.	50	0	0
Expence of tranſaction,	0	15	0
Inſurance mutually agreed upon, two and an half per cent. - -	25	0	0
£.	1075	15	0

In order that the three different ſums may follow the true proportion, they ſhould be ſeparately charged, as in the above inſtance, the intereſt always being regulated by the ſum and the time; the expence of tranſacting the buſineſs being neither regulated by the ſum nor the time, (for it would be nearly the ſame were it only half the ſum), but by what it is judged it really may coſt, or by what it has been found by experience to coſt. And the inſurance being regulated by the riſk that it is ſuppoſed will be run, according to the beſt information that can be had, relative to the circumſtances of the borrower.

As ſmall loans do not afford ſufficient profit for the time and trouble that would be required to examine with ſufficient minuteneſs into the circumſtances of the borrower; for that, as well as ſeveral other

ther reaſons, the riſk incurred is greater than in larger tranſactions, and ought to be paid for accordingly. It is reaſonable, therefore, that an higher intereſt ſhould be paid for ſmall loans than for large ones.

It very fortunately happens, that thoſe who borrow ſmall ſums, and but for a ſhort time, can in fact afford to give higher intereſt than the borrower of a large ſum *.

In conſidering loans, therefore, regard ought to be had to their extent and amount, as well as to the credit of the borrower.

Theſe things being premiſed, it is ſuggeſted, that a fund might with great advantage be eſtabliſhed, for the purpoſe of ſupplying individuals with ſums of money, in a lawful manner, upon ſuch principles, and upon a plan, which, from the baſis on which it ſhould be founded, might turn out to be very different in its advantages from any of thoſe that have hitherto been inſtituted.

The firſt regulation, in an inſtitution of this ſort, would require to be,

That no loan ſhould ever be granted which did not appear to be for the advantage of the borrower, whatever other circumſtances might warrant the expediency of granting it.

That, as the minds of men are often too apt to be biaſſed by circumſtances, there ſhould be a limit ſet to the higheſt rate of intereſt that may be taken, which muſt be regulated by the extent of the loan; that is to ſay, the power of granting uſurious loans † not to be left to the directors of ſuch a bank.

The extent of the loan ſhould be eſtimated by the intereſt which it produces during the whole time of the exiſtence of the loan. Thus 500 l. for two years, ſhould be reckoned the ſame as 1000 l. for one year.

That the principal management be in the hands of men who have no intereſt in exacting too high a premium of inſurance, nor of increaſing the expence of the negotiation.

That men of character ſhould be employed to inquire into the particular circumſtances of borrowers, under the beſt regulations that can be deviſed, for coming at the true ſtate of their affairs.

That a certain time elapſe between the aſking a loan and the granting of it, unleſs it be under ſuch particular circumſtances as may be excepted from the general regulations.

That, in order to avoid making any kind of monopoly of the lending of money, where the ſecurity is ſo good as not to require much premium of inſurance, this bank be never allowed to lend money without a premium, nor unleſs that premium amounts to two-fifths of the intereſt.

That, in order alſo to render the inſtitution quite competent to the equalizing the monied affairs of the kingdom, and without reſpect, in this inſtance, to public revenue, any perſon may be allowed to take, for the loan of money on uncertain ſecurity, two fifths premium of inſurance more than what, at the time of ſuch loan being granted, is given for the loan of money on mortgage ‡. This laſt general licence for taking *premia* not to extend to loans above a certain amount.

Regiſters of all tranſactions to be ſo kept, that the circumſtances attending them may be known at any time afterwards.

Probably the regulation of the inſtitution might with advantage be ſubjected, in ſome degree, to the yearly inſpection of a committee of the Houſe of Commons; and, at all events, as there would be a good deal of diſcretionary power veſted in the managers, it ought to have every poſſible check, which frequent and mi-

* The value of loans to a ſmall amount is often ſo great, that it can ſcarcely be ſaid to bear any parallel to be drawn between it and larger loans; for inſtance, ſuppoſe a labouring man has an opportunity of getting employment, but is in want of five ſhillings to purchaſe tools to work with; that his employer will not furniſh him with them becauſe it is a thing he is not accuſtomed to do. In ſuch a caſe (and ſuch really often exiſt), could the man get five ſhillings to borrow, he might be able to repay the money with advantage both to himſelf and the lender, in a few days; for, if he were to pay cent. per cent. it would be no great object to him, and it would ſtill be his intereſt to do it, rather than to want the loan. It would be difficult to ſpecify a caſe in which 1000 *l.* for a year could be applied to ſuch proportional advantage.

† A loan ought never to be conſidered as uſurious, ſo long as it is for the advantage of the borrower, and there is no more intereſt taken than pays for the riſk incurred.

‡ A public regiſter, for the intereſt on mortgage, might be inſtituted, as it would vary as money was more or leſs plentiful.

nute inſpection into the exerciſe of ſuch an office might afford.

To attempt laying down regulations now for a company of this ſort, would be abſurd, as it could not be done with any kind of propriety by an individual, and as it would alſo be very uſeleſs, the whole intention being ſimply to ſuggeſt the outlines, and demonſtrate the expediency of the plan.

The intention of ſuch a plan is public good; and as ſuch it ought to be promoted, as far as the nature of things will allow, in obtaining that end.

A high rate of intereſt will be taken, becauſe it is only meant to be applied to caſes where a high rate can be afforded, and where, on account of the riſk run, it is required. As every man who has either property, induſtry, or character, ought to have ſome degree of credit, however limited, this plan ought to extend to debtors in priſon, when circumſtances are ſuch as to warrant it in any degree. This would, if it proved to anſwer, be a noble purpoſe."

The chief difficulty attending the execution of a ſcheme of this ſort, would probably conſiſt in finding expedients by which the lenders ſhould be able to gain ſuch information reſpecting the real ſituation of the borrowers, as ſhould ſecure the former from ruinous loſſes. The premium allowed in the plan is certainly much too ſmall to be an equivalent for the hazards which would be run; and a larger premium would perhaps ſuperſede the utility of the inſtitution, and introduce all the miſchiefs of uſurious contracts. M.

The India Guide: or, A Journal of a voyage to the Eaſt Indies in the year 1780. *In a poetical Epiſtle to her mother. By Miſs Emily Brittle.* 12mo. *Printed at Calcutta in* 1785.

THis publication is attributed to George Dallas, Eſq; of the Bengal eſtabliſhment, and dedicated by him to Mr Anſley. There is a novelty in the ſcenery, as well as in the delineation of manners our author deſcribes, which amply atones for his deficiency in ſtrength, vivacity, and correctneſs. Miſs Brittle, in her paſſage on board an Indiaman from the Cape of Good Hope, and from Madras to Bengal, paints her terrors and diſagreeable ſituation at ſea, the characters of the officers and paſſengers, the manners of the Dutch at the Cape, and the peculiarities of her reception, and of the ſociety at Madras. Some extracts we hope will not be unacceptable.

Thoſe intruſive familiarities ſo repugnant to decorum, and thoſe vulgar freedoms of an unpoliſhed ſociety, by which female delicacy is ſo often wounded during a ſix months confinement on a voyage to the Eaſt-Indies, are thus deſcribed by our author; and the peruſal of which we particularly recommend to ſuch female adventurers as are deſirous of *making their fortunes in a matrimonial way* in the Eaſt Indies.

Cape Town, July 25. 1785.

IF you, my dear Mother, had e'er been at ſea,
On a trip to the Indies you ne'er had ſent me;
If half what I ſuffer'd I e'er had ſuppos'd,
The voyage in itſelf I'd have flatly oppos'd.
What tho' 'tis too late to repent I left home,
'Tis not ſo to grieve that I ventur'd to roam:
Nor would I yield up my conſent e'er again,
To plough diſtant ſeas in purſuit of a Swain!
With toſſing and tumbling my bones were ſo ſore,
Such an up and down motion I ne'er felt before;
Many days had elaps'd e'er I firſt got a notion
That to keep on my legs I muſt humour the motion.
For the ſpace of ſix weeks not an eye could I cloſe,
As mountains on mountains alternately roſe;
Each roll with freſh tremors my boſom impreſt,
As a prelude, alas! to the manſions of reſt.
Ah! fondeſt of Parents! ah! could you but peep
At your frolickſome Brittle thus toſs'd on the deep!
In tears of affection you'd Heaven implore
To waft her again to her dear native ſhore!
A ſlave to my fears, I am often diſmay'd
By the phantoms of fancy in terror array'd;
If a wave ſtrikes the ſide, and the ſhip gives a ſhock,
I ſtart, as if daſh'd on ſome mercileſs rock;
Into calms tho' fair Zephyr all faintingly dies,
'Tis Boreas indignantly bids the gale riſe,
Strait blackens the North! and with boiſterous will
He vengefully baffles the mariner's ſkill;
The towering maſt is no longer in view,
A whirlpool of horror envelops the crew!
If Morpheus around me encircles his arms,
His embraces are ſhorten'd by viſion'd alarms!
In wild perturbation he ſays, "My fair friend,
The veſſel has founder'd, and hope's at an end!"

Affrighted

Affrighted I wake, and in tears of deſpair,
To ÆOLUS fervently offer my pray'r,
That Maidens who daringly traverſe the ſeas,
He will genially waft with a mild rippling breeze!
Again, in my ſleep I late ſpied from afar
One ploughing the waves in a burniſh'd ſhell car;
'Twas Neptune the god! whom all mermaids adore,
And who ſeem'd to have riſen from Stygia's black ſhore:
Our veſſel he ſtopp'd, and he mounted the ſide,
And vow'd, when he ſaw me, he'd make me his bride;
Then bow'd at my feet, and his trident up gave,
And hail'd me the Goddeſs of Ocean's dark cave!
All preſſing, careſſing, he call'd me his love,
As gentle and ſoft as bright Venus's dove!
But when I intreated his diſtance he'd keep,
With barbarous ſpeed was I borne to the deep!
In vain did I ſtruggle, and ſtrive to eſcape
A ſecond edition of Proſerpine's rape.
'Gainſt the ruffian deſpoiler—ſay, what could I do?
By force, not by love, did the tyrant ſubdue!
All flutter'd with fear, and with rage in my face,
I ſhriek'd, and recoil'd from his briny embrace;
And when I emerg'd from his lawleſs controul,
" I ſhook my poor ears like a mouſe in a bowl."
But O! with what rapture my ſparklers did gleam,
When I woke and diſcover'd—all this was a dream!
O! how ſhall I picture, in *delicate* ſtrain,
The ſcene which enſu'd when I firſt croſs'd the main;
Or, how ſhall my Muſe in *clean* numbers bewail
My early hard lot, when reclin'd o'er a pail.
I was rack'd by ſea-ſickneſs and pains in my head,
Which gave me ſuch torture I wiſh'd myſelf dead!
Forgive the chaſte nymph, ſhou'd ſhe wiſh to conceal
All the riſings and ſwimmings too often I feel;
For whenever it happens the weather's not mild,
I'm as ſick and as ſqueamiſh as Jenny with child.
You have ſeen bales of goods and mercantile wares
Rais'd by pullies to windows up too pairs of ſtairs;
So ſtuck in a chair, made on purpoſe for this,
Sailors hoiſt upon deck ev'ry India-bound Miſs:
When pois'd in the air, I happen'd to ſhow
Too much of my legs to the boat's crew below;
Who laughing, occaſion'd the bluſh of diſtreſs.
Indeed, dear Mama, I'm oblig'd to confeſs,
That indecency ſo much on ſhip-board prevail'd,
I ſcarce heard aught elſe from the moment I ſail'd.
The noiſe in the ſhip from every quarter,
Almoſt ſplit the brain of your poor little daughter:
Twice a-week 'twas the cuſtom the drums loud to rattle,
As a ſignal below to prepare for a battle.
The ſailors on deck were for ever a-brawling;
The ladies below in piano were ſqualling;
The bulk heads of cabins were conſtantly creaking
In concert with pigs, who as often were ſqueaking:
Such a clatter above from the chick to the gooſe,
I thought the live-ſtock on the poop had broke looſe;
Dogs, puppies, and monkies of ev'ry degree
Howl'd peals of loud diſcord in hariſh ſymphony;
Whilſt near to my cabin a ſad noiſy brute
Moſt cruelly tortur'd a poor German flute:
Another, a ſprightly amuſement to find,
A broken bad fiddle with three ſtrings wou'd grind;
And to add to diſcordance, our third mate Tarpawl
Some vulgar low tune would be certain to bawl.
But to picture the whole I am really unable,
'Twas worſe than the noiſe at the building of Babel;
I declare my poor ears were ſo ſadly diſtreſt,
That for many a week I ne'er got any reſt.
Had Signior Corelli but witneſs'd the ſcene,
The muſical ſoul would have died of the ſpleen!
Ah! Stanley, protect me! hadſt thou been but near,
Tho' blind, thou'dſt have pray'd to be deaf in each ear:
In ſhort, my weak nerves were ſo deeply affected,
The tone of my mind was at times ſo dejected,
That Doctor Pompoſus was forc'd for to heap up
An opiate each night, my poor ſpirits to keep up.
It was often the caſe on a rough ſqually day,
At dinner our ſhip on her beam ends would lay;

Then

Then tables and chairs on the floor all would
jumble,
Knives, diſhes, and bottles, upon us would
tumble.
As late, when a roll brought us all to the floor,
Whilſt the Ladies were ſcreaming, the
Gentlemen ſwore,
Our Purſer, as big as a bullock at leaſt,
Lay on poor little me, like an over-fed beaſt.
Not many weeks ſince I had only to ſcoop
From my lap the contents of a tureen of
ſoup;
And when with clean clothes I again had ſat
down,
A vile leg of mutton fell right on my gown.
Sometimes I was foil'd from my head to my
toe
With naſty pork chops, or a greaſy pillau:
Full many a glaſs of good wine, I may ſay,
By a violent toſs was thrown down the
wrong way;
And as on board ſhip we have no one to ſcrub,
As for three months at leaſt there's no thump-
ing the tub;
So I think it but proper that *delicate* women
Should lay in a plentiful ſtock of clean linen.
Whenever I walk on the deck, I am ſure
To be ſhock'd by ſuch language as none can
endure:
Such ſcolding! ſuch roaring! ſuch blaſting of
eyes!
You'd think that the crew in rebellion would
riſe!
The Captains, great creatures! ſo regally
great,
Like Hector, oft ſwagger in bluſtering ſtate;
From ſtarboard to larboard at pleaſure they
ſtride,
The cocks of their dunghill in laughable
pride;
Now up to the Cuddy, then back to the
Waiſt,
They actively ſtrut in prodigious great haſte;
While Tarpawl, in order to prove he's gen-
teel,
Of mariner's jargon will ring us a peal.
At ſight of the Ladies his voice, loud as
thunder;
Tremendouſly bellows ſome technical blun-
der;
Stays, bowlings, and ratt'lings, with many a
curſe,
Which aukwardly jingle when put into verſe.
How much it has tortur'd and puzzled my
brain
To jumble together his forecaſtle ſtrain.

* * * * * *

Scarce the cloth is remov'd but the Gentle-
men go
To diſcuſs a few bottles of Stainforth and Co.
And from dinner ſometimes to the hour of
nine
They get drunk, and roar catches, to paſs
away time;
And often, in order to ſhew their politeneſs,
With vile ſhocking ſongs will be certain to
frighten us;
Such ſongs! as to you I can never explain,
For the loweſt of women would bluſh at
their ſtrain.
The rude Bacchanalians 'twould greatly amuſe,
My virgin young innocence oft to confuſe;
For whenever to tipple below they thought fit,
Loud obſcenity paſs'd round their table for
wit.
At firſt with fine cotton I ſtopp'd up each ear,
That I might not their impudent ribaldry
hear;
But I found 'twas in vain, as the words
would get in
Thro' thoſe parts where the cotton would
chance to be thin:
And as in the cabin which lay next to mine,
In the paſſage they drank out twelve cheſts
of red wine;
So of that kind of knowledge I've got a great
ſtore,
Of which I had ſcarce any notion before.
Another diverſion the young men would
prize,
'Twas in ſeeing us all from our pigeon-holes
riſe;
With them 'tis a proof of politeneſs, they
think,
The ladies perfections in bumpers to drink;
For often they boaſt they have had a full view
Of Prim, and Flirtetta, myſelf, and Miſs
Prue:
But what man of good-breeding will offer
to peep
At a groupe of fine girls as they lay all aſleep!
Since deeming her charms are from all eyes
debarr'd,
The moſt delicate maid is at times off her
guard:
And they who preſume this advantage to
take,
All pretenſions to manners muſt ſurely forſake.
In our ſhip 'twas one ſcene, on my word, I
may ſay,
Of boring and ſtopping on both ſides all day;
If we fill'd up one hole 'twas the ſame as
before,
With their gimblets another they'd preſently
bore.
The ſhip's carpenter ſwore he was worn off
his legs,
By conſtantly running to fill them with pegs:
And when to repel them we found 'twas in
vain,
We politely entreated they'd ne'er peep again.
But the Vandals ſtill forc'd us at night to lie
down
With a petticoat on, and a morning bed-
gown.
If we fail'd to wear theſe, they were ſure to
look thro',
To ſee if our ſhapes they uncover'd could view.

Such!

Such! ſuch are the ſcenes which ariſe to torment her
Who ploughs foaming billows in ſearch of adventure!
Then had you, dear Mother, e'er been in a ſhip,
You ne'er would have ſent me on ſuch a vile trip;
And ſurely, myſelf, I'd the voyage have declin'd,
If half what I ſuffer'd I e'er had opin'd!

[*To be continued.*]

Extracts from the Report made to his Majeſty by the Board of Land and Sea Officers, appointed by his Majeſty to inveſtigate and report on the proper Syſtem of Defence, and on the Expediency and Efficacy of the propoſed Plans for better ſecuring the Dock-Yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth, bearing date June 24. 1785.

MEMBERS Preſent.

At Portſmouth, Gen. D. of Richmond, Preſident; Vice-Adm. Barrington, Lt-Gen^{s} Sir Guy Carleton, Sir W. Howe, Lord George Lenox, Burgoyne, Earl Percy, Earl Cornwallis, Sir David Lindſay, Sir Charles Grey; Maj.-Gen^{s} Pattiſon, Cleveland; Rear-Adm. Ld. Hood; Maj.-Gen^{s} Bramham, Green, Roy, Garth; Capt^{s} Hotham, Sir John Jarvis, Bowyer, Sir Andrew Hammond, James Luttrell.

At Plymouth, Gen. D. of Richmond, Preſident; Vice-Adm. Barrington; Lt-Gen^{s} Sir Guy Carleton, Sir W. Howe, Earl Cornwallis, Sir David Lindſay; Vice-Adm. Millbanke; Lt-Gen. Sir C. Grey; Maj.-Gen^{s} Pattiſon, Cleveland; Rear-Adm. Graves; Maj.-Gen^{s} Bramham, Green, Roy, Garth; Capt^{s} Hotham, Macbride, Sir Andrew Hammond.

REPORT of the Board of Land and Sea Officers appointed by your Majeſty to inveſtigate and report on the proper Syſtem of Defence, and on the Expediency and Efficacy of the propoſed Plans for better ſecuring the Dock-yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth.

Having fully taken into our conſideration your Majeſty's inſtructions, under your Majeſty's ſignet and ſign-manual, dated April 13. 1785, and obſerving that your Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to allow us to vary or add to the *data* contained therein, as we ſhould ſee occaſion, we have availed ourſelves of your Majeſty's permiſſion ſo to do; and as, in conſequence of ſuch alterations, ſome of the heads and queſtions under them appeared to us to have been already anſwered in ſome of the *data*, we conceived any diſcuſſion of them became unneceſſary, as will more fully be ſeen in the minutes of our proceedings herewith laid before your Majeſty. We, therefore, in obedience to your Majeſty's commands, beg leave humbly to report to your Majeſty, that we have agreed on the following *data*, as the grounds on which our ſubſequent opinions have been formed.

Firſt *datum* agreed to unanimouſly by both Land and Sea Officers at Portſmouth and at Plymouth.

That it is perfectly right, neceſſary, and wiſe, effectually to provide in time of peace for the ſecurity of your Majeſty's dock-yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth, by fortifications capable of reſiſting ſuch an attack as an enemy may be able to make upon them during the abſence of the fleet, or whilſt, from other cauſes, the fleet may be prevented from affording its protection to the dock-yards.

Second *datum* agreed to unanimouſly by both Land and Sea Officers at Portſmouth and Plymouth.

That, as far as is conſiſtent with due conſiderations of expence, and the probable ſtrength of the land forces, it will be adviſeable to provide a defence by fortifications for the dock-yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth, againſt the chances of the fleet, or ſuch part thereof as might give them protection, being abſent for (a certain time named, which is omitted, as not being proper to be diſcloſed.)

[*Note*, The third *datum*, ſtating the force of the enemy againſt which it may be prudent to guard, the number of embarkations, and the detailed account of ſhips proper for this purpoſe, and agreed to unanimouſly by both land and ſea officers, is omitted, as it cannot be proper that ſuch particulars ſhould be diſcloſed.

The fourth *datum*, aſcertaining the preciſe number and ſort of troops which may reaſonably be expected to be had for the defence of Portſmouth and Plymouth, as eſtabliſhed by the land officers, and an obſervation thereupon, is of a nature not proper to be diſcloſed.—The diſſent of Lt-Gen^{s} Burgoyne and Earl Percy is in ſubſtance contained in their proviſo under another head hereafter ſtated

ſtated at length; but the particular reaſons contained in this diſſent of Lt-Genl Burgoyne and Earl Percy are for the ſame reaſon omitted.

The fifth *datum*, agreed to unanimouſly by the land officers, aſcertaining the time that it may require before the ſtrength of the country can be collected from other parts of the kingdom, in ſuch force as to defeat ſuch an attempt as is ſuppoſed, is for the ſame reaſon omitted.]

Your Majeſty's Land Officers at Portſmouth and Plymouth are unanimouſly of opinion, that ſuch is the ſituation of the preſent works, that no finiſhing, repairs, or improvements, without additional works, can, under the circumſtances of the *data*, afford that degree of ſecurity to the dock-yards (for the time mentioned in the preceding *datum*) as may enable your Majeſty to employ your whole fleet, if neceſſary, on foreign ſervice.

[*Note*, All the details relative to the inſufficiency of the preſent fortifications, unanimouſly agreed to by the land-officers, are omitted.]

Your Majeſty's land-officers (both at Portſmouth and Plymouth) are unanimouſly of opinion, that a ſyſtem of detached forts is the moſt proper for the purpoſe of protecting the dock-yards.

Your Majeſty's land-officers (both at Portſmouth and Plymouth) are unanimouſly of opinion, that the ſyſtem of detached works, as propoſed, has, in the extenſive ſituations of Portſmouth and Plymouth, this advantage, that the ſecurity to be derived therefrom will not be wholly delayed till the whole of the propoſed plan is executed, but an additional degree of ſtrength will be acquired as the detached works are progreſſively finiſhed.

Your Majeſty's land-officers (both at Portſmouth and Plymouth) are unanimouſly of opinion, that the ſituations (of the ſeveral places therein ſpecified) are well choſen for detached works.

Your Majeſty's land-officers (at Portſmouth and Plymouth) are unanimouſly of opinion, that the new works propoſed are well adapted to thoſe ſituations.

[*Note*, The detail of the peculiar advantages of theſe works, unanimouſly agreed to by the land-officers, is omitted.]

Your Majeſty's land-officers (at Plymouth) are unanimouſly of opinion, that the diſtance of the ſituation propoſed, in lieu of Merrifield, from the dock, appears too great for the circumſtances of the *data*; and would, if fortified, require a greater garriſon and greater expence, and would not afford the ſame ſecurity to the dock-yard as Merrifield, and therefore the land-officers muſt give the preference to Merrifield.

Your Majeſty's land-officers (at Portſmouth) are unanimouſly of opinion, that the propoſed finiſhing works already begun, the improvements of old ones, and the plan for rebuilding South-Sea Caſtle, will, together with the works propoſed, give a reaſonable degree of ſecurity for your Majeſty's dock-yard at Portſmouth, for the time and under the circumſtances of the *data*, with a garriſon, of the numbers before ſpecified, (regular and militia), which the land-officers are of opinion is ſufficient for its defence; whereas the preſent works, even when repaired, finiſhed, and improved, would require a large force for their defence, with which they would ſtill be ineffectual for the purpoſe of ſecuring this dock-yard.

Your Majeſty's land-officers (at Plymouth) are unanimouſly of opinion, that a garriſon (of the numbers before ſpecified, regulars and militia) appears ſufficient, if the propoſed new works, and repair of old ones, are executed; and that for the preſent works, even when repaired, a much larger garriſon would be ineffectual for the purpoſe of ſecuring this dock-yard.

Your Majeſty's land officers, having taken into conſideration the whole ſituation of Plymouth, are unanimouſly of opinion, that the propoſed new works, in addition to the old ones, when properly repaired, as ſuggeſted in our proceedings (with a garriſon of the numbers before ſpecified, regulars and militia), will give a reaſonable degree of ſecurity for your Majeſty's dock-yard at Plymouth, for the time and under the circumſtances, of the *data*.

Your Majeſty's land officers, as far as they were reſpectively concerned at Portſmouth or at Plymouth, do report to your Majeſty, that, from the report of the committee of engineers at the Tower, which they have unanimouſly agreed to adopt, it appears that the expence of the works propoſed for ſecuring your Majeſty's dock-yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth will be as follows:

[*Note*, This paper has been already delivered to the Houſe.]

Your

Your Majeſty's inſtructions, under the 23d head, having required, what improvements or alterations, or what other ſyſtem of defence the Board would ſuggeſt, the unanimous opinion of your Majeſty's ſea officers is, that a certain number (therein ſpecified) of gun-boats at Portſmouth and Plymouth, will form a great arm of defence againſt an invading enemy.

And your Majeſty's land officers entirely concur in this opinion with the ſea officers, conſidering theſe gun-boats as a great improvement in the defence of theſe places.

Your Majeſty's land and ſea officers beg leave to recommend a ſet of ſignals to be eſtabliſhed on the projecting headlands (of certain parts of the coaſt therein ſpecified), with intelligent mariners to make them, as of eſſential advantage in conveying early intelligence of the approach of an enemy, and for the protection of commerce.

Your Majeſty's land and ſea officers unanimouſly recommend an improvement in the ſupply of freſh water at Plymouth (if to be had at a reaſonable expence.)

The Board has no other improvement, or other ſyſtem of defence, to ſuggeſt to your Majeſty.

Laſtly, your Majeſty's land and ſea officers humbly beg leave to obſerve, That they make this report to your Majeſty, in full confidence, that the providing an additional ſecurity to the dock yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth is in no reſpect inconſiſtent with the neceſſary exertions for the ſupport of the navy; which they conſider as the firſt object of attention for the ſafety and proſperity of the kingdom.

Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny,
Sam. Barrington,
Guy Carleton,
Will. Howe,
Geo. Hen. Lenox,
John Burgoyne,
Percy,
Cornwallis,
David Lindſay,
Mark Millbanke,
Charles Grey,
James Pattiſon,
Sam. Cleaveland,
Tho. Graves,
Hood,
James Bramham,
William Green,
William Roy,
George Garth,
William Hotham,
John Macbride,
John Jarvis,
George Bowyer,
And. Sn. Hammond,
James Luttrell.

Capt. Macbride entered the following objection to the third *datum*, on the ſubject of the enemy's force againſt which the Board thought it neceſſary to provide.

I object to this *datum*, becauſe it is founded upon a calculation of a large imaginary force. My idea of a deſcent goes only to the probability of an armament that may poſſibly conſiſt of (a certain force which he ſpecifies), which I think ſufficient to provide againſt.

To the queſtion, What improvement or alteration, or what other ſyſtem of defence, the Board would ſuggeſt?

Lt-Gen^{s} Burgoyne and Earl Percy, Vice-Adm. Millbanke, and Maj.-Gen. Green, ſtated, that they had none to ſuggeſt, under the circumſtances of the *data*.

Rear-Adm. Graves ſtated, that he had none to ſuggeſt, under the exceſs of the *data*.

Vice-Adm. Barrington, Rear-Adm. Lord Hood, Capt^{s} Hotham, Bowyer, Sir Andrew Snape Hammond, and the Hon. James Luttrell, ſtated, that they thought it more properly belonged to the land officers of this Board, than to them, as the mixtures of their proceedings will ſhew, to enter into any ſyſtem of defence or fortifications, except in ſuch parts as are intended for a defence againſt ſhips of war, and the propoſals they have offered for gun-boats.

Capt. Macbride ſtated, that he had no further improvements to ſuggeſt; but entered his objections to the propoſed ſyſtem of defence.

[*Note.* Capt. Macbride's objections are omitted, becauſe they contain detailed deſcriptions of the coaſt, road-ſteads, currents, tides, and bottoms, and anchorage, by no means proper to be divulged.] Capt. Macbride concludes his objections with theſe words:

I am therefore of opinion, that no new works are at preſent neceſſary to be erected at Plymouth. *J. Macbride.*

On the Board having declared it to be their unanimous opinion, that no member is precluded, by the *data* agreed to by the Board, from ſuggeſting any other ſyſtem of defence, on thoſe or any other *data*, for the conſideration of the Board, in anſwer to the queſtion contained in the 23d head under his Majeſty's inſtructions;

The following proviſo was added:

But we do not think ourſelves required, as individuals, by his Majeſty's inſtructions, or any queſtions under them,

to produce any other ſyſtem, or other *data*.

S. Barrington, *J. Burgoyne*, *Percy*, *M. Millbanke*, *Tho. Graves*, *Will. Green*, *Will. Hotham*, *J. Jarvis*, *Geo. Bowyer*.

Rear-Adm. Graves, in aſſenting to the article of the report, expreſſing the full confidence of the Board, that the providing an additional ſecurity to the dock-yard at Plymouth is in no reſpect inconſiſtent with the neceſſary ſupport of the navy; to avoid being miſunderſtood, deſired to explain himſelf by the following proviſo:

I perfectly agree with the reſt of the Board as to the importance of the royal navy towards the ſafety and proſperity of this maritime and inſular kingdom; but would not have it implied that I think any new ſyſtem of additional land fortifications for the ſecurity of Plymouth neceſſary. *T. Graves.*

Lt. Genl Burgoyne and Earl Percy, Vice-Adm. Millbanke, Rear-Adm. Graves, and Capt. Sir John Jarvis, on ſigning the Report, beg leave to repreſent to your Majeſty as follows:

That our proceedings have been founded upon the ſuppoſition of the whole fleet being abſent for (a certain time) as mentioned in the ſecond *datum*, and therefore that the enemy may bring over an army (of the force mentioned in the third *datum*) with an artillery proportionate to an attack on Portſmouth or Plymouth, having (a certain time) to act in uninterrupted by the Britiſh fleet, as mentioned in the third *datum*: The bare poſſibility of ſuch an event we do not pretend to deny; but how far it is probable that the whole Britiſh fleet may be ſent on any ſervice requiring ſo long an abſence, at a time when the enemy is prepared to invade this country with (a force as that mentioned in the third *datum*) we muſt humbly leave to your Majeſty's ſuperior wiſdom; and therefore, whether it is neceſſary, in conſequence of ſuch a ſuppoſition, to erect works of ſo expenſive a nature as thoſe propoſed, and which require ſuch large garriſons to defend them.

J. Burgoyne, *Percy*, *M. Millbanke*, *T. Graves*, *J. Jarvis*.

Lt-Genl Burgoyne and Earl Percy, on agreeing to the erection of new works, and to the ſyſtem of detached forts being the moſt proper for the preſervation of the dock-yard at Portſmouth, entered the following proviſo:

We approve of the ſyſtem of detached works, and we agree to the above, under the circumſtances ſettled in the *data*, provided the expence to be incurred ſhall not exceed ſuch ſums as the ſtate can afford to grant for theſe purpoſes, and that the number of troops, ſuppoſed to be allotted by the fourth *datum*, can be ſpared for the defence of Portſmouth, conſiſtently with the general defence of the kingdom. *J. Burgoyne.* *Percy.*

To which proviſo the reſt of the land officers, members of this Board, think it their duty to add:

That we the underwritten humbly deſire that it may be underſtood by your Majeſty, that we never entertained an idea that any expence to be incurred ſhould exceed ſuch ſums as the ſtate could afford for theſe purpoſes, as we apprehend is fully ſtated in our ſecond *datum*; or that we meant to recommend works requiring a greater number of troops to defend than could be ſpared for the defence of Portſmouth, conſiſtently with the general defence of the kingdom.

On the contrary, the works we recommend appear to us to be calculated upon the moſt œconomical principles, and to require the ſmalleſt number of troops poſſible to anſwer the purpoſe of effectually ſecuring your Majeſty's dock-yards at Portſmouth and Plymouth. We conceive that ſuch numbers can be ſpared for this purpoſe; we conſider ſuch protection to be an eſſential object for the ſafety of the ſtate, and intimately connected with the general defence of the kingdom; but we do not conſider it to be our province minutely to enter into a conſideration of the abilities of the ſtate to provide the neceſſary ſupplies for this purpoſe.

Richmond, Lenox, and Aubigny, *Guy Carleton*, *Will. Howe*, *Geo. H. Lenox*, *Cornwallis*, *David Lindſay*, *Charles Grey*, *James Pattiſon*, *Sam. Cleaveland*, *James Bramham*, *William Green*, *William Roy*, *George Garth*.

RICHMOND, &c.
Preſident of the Board of Land and Sea Officers, &c.

Epi-

EPILOGUE *to the* ORPHAN *of* CHINA.

Written by Mr PRATT.

And ſpoken by Mr FECTOR, *at his private theatre in Dover*

WELL, Dames and Sirs, we've had rare doings here,
Princes in van, conſpirators in rear!
To-night you've ſeen what patriots were of yore,
Tyrants you've heard declaim, and Tartars roar;
Nor dare ye now deny *they* were indeed,
A race of mortals *won'drous apt to bleed*:
The dames of China were ſo fond of death,
Maids, on their wedding night, gave up their breath.
And huſbands (Ladies how unlike your own?)
Stole off, before the honey-moon was down,
Your Eaſtern bridegrooms offer'd up their wives,
Whene'er the general welfare claim'd their lives;
Each beauteous victim, at her Lord's command,
Took the dire inſtrument of fate in hand,
Amidſt the red-hot pile undaunted ſtood,
Burnt, hung, or drowned, for the *public good*.
"Do die, my dear," the tender huſband ſaid,
"This for thy country!"—then ſtruck off her head
Untimely deaths were then indeed ſo common,
Woman for ſport kill'd man, and man kill'd woman
A bowl of poiſon was the *virgin's* end,
She *drank it off*—and call'd it Virtue's friend,
Bent her white boſom to the *patriot* blow,
And ſaw the ſtreams of life unheeded flow.
Then whiſper'd her kind Lord—but not to ſave her.
Gave *him* the blade:—he thank'd her for the favour
"Take it my deareſt—ſoft—you know the reſt"
The good man ſeiz'd and plung'd it in his breaſt;
Then ſide by ſide, ſtill man and wife they lie,
Kiſs and expire *without one daſtard ſigh*.
To Britons turn we from ſuch tribes as theſe,
Britons, who pleaſe to live, and live to pleaſe;
Our Engliſh dames *ſuch* killing cuſtoms hate,
And born to conquer, ne'er ſubmit to fate.
Should ſome deep ruin on their country preſs
Too generous they—*to* leave *her in diſtreſs*.
Inſtead of *dying*—they like patriots ſtout,
Boldly *live on* and—*tire the miſchief out*.
Or if ſome off'ring the ſtern fates require,
They nobly ſpare—their *huſbands* to the fire,
"Yes, ye lov'd Lords,—we give ye up," they cry,
"'Tis for the general good ye all ſhould die;
Alas, ſad widows, ſure our hearts will break,
But we will bear it *for our country's ſake*.
Yet, oh dear martyrs, what we ſtill muſt dread.
Is leſt the ſtate again ſhould bid us—wed."
Ye pride of Albion, yours the graceful art
To point with nicer ſkill the potent dart;
Yours the ſoft privilege, whole ranks to kill,
And make Death lovely, tho' no blood ye ſpill;
Ye, like the chalky cliffs that guard our coaſt,
Affort your ſkies, and are yourſelves an hoſt;
Tho' of young roſes are *your* fetters made,
In vain would lion *man* their force evade;
Tho' your triumphant car is drawn by doves,
And to the wheels your captives tied by loves;
Not vex'd Ixion e'er was bound ſo faſt,
And while ye frown, the puniſhment muſt laſt.
Fame, life, and death, are in your conquering eyes;
And of each poliſh'd art your *ſmiles* the prize,
Oh, for *our* toils, in every beauteous face;
Thoſe fair *rewards* of pleaſing may we trace.

EPILOGUE *to the Tragedy of* Zenobia.

Written by Mr PRATT.

And ſpoken by Mr FECTOR *of Dover.*

'TIS now the taſk of Modern Epilogue
With ſportive hand to ſtrike the faults in vogue,
And chide the little foibles of the day,
As with the Poet's ſilken laſh we play;
When Tragedy has drain'd her pois'nous bowl,
And thund'ring heroes ceaſe blank verſe to roll;
Comes forth array'd in robes of gentle rhimes
Another dame to criticize the times;
The bards, her agents, call the goddeſs *Satire*,
Who ſmaks her whip with infinite good-nature,
A whip compos'd of feathers, not of wire,
At whoſe light touch the *nonſenſes* expire;
On the leaſt whiſk behold the bubbles burſt,
And *gull* the ſecond dies like *gull* the firſt.
The favourite phraſes fall and are no more
The *rage*, the *thing*, the *twaddle*, and the *bore*;
Ev'n *vaſt Balloons*, thoſe bubbles in the air,
Now ſcarce can make a country bumkin ſtare.
The town's dear follies dwindle one by one,
Tho' every new-born faſhion has *its run*.
The learned horſe is beat by dancing dogs,
Whilſt they give place to yet more learned hogs;
Alas! the learned hogs themſelves muſt yield,
For turkeys now at ſchool ſhall take the field
Who knows but geeſe may yet be taught diſpute,
And prove their teacher *man* the greater brute;
And ſince the rage of learning ſpreads ſo wide,
The keeper and the beaſt ſhould ſhare its pride;
Since both alike for parts deſerve our praiſe,
Let pigs be gown'd and puppies wear the bays;
The apes of ſcience medals ſhould obtain,
And owls turn wits, and write for Drury Lane.
But Satire ſometimes aims at female hearts,
How tenderly at theſe ſhe hurls her darts!
A blemiſh now and then perchance ſhe ſhows
But vows they're trifling ſpecks on mountain ſnows,
Motes in the ſun, or ſome ſuch kind alluſion,
Correcting faults, yet ſparing all confuſion;
She gives no blow to ſpoil a Lady's features,
Who *can* bear malice with ſuch charming creatures,

Whoſe eyes upon their foibles dart *ſuch* rays,
Satire forgets her nature at a gaze;
One gentle languiſh ſnaps the proudeſt lance,
And anger melts to pleaſure at a glance;
Thus the *dear ſex* may laugh at Satire's plans,
And break the ſpear of cenſure with their fans.
But *here* ſhould Satire take her ſtricteſt round,
I know not where one foible could be found;
From top to bottom Graces may be ſeen,
Th' approving plaudit, and the gentle mein;
In vain for follies here would Satire come,
The audience ſure have left their faults at home:
Far as my ſearching eye the houſe can trace,
I do not ſee one diſcontented face;
If faults there are, behind our ſcenes they lie;
But our kind judges blame not what they ſpy;
A theatre of generous friends appear,
To prove that Satire has *no entrance here.*

LATIN ODE, *by Dr* JOHNSON, *on the iſle of* SKY. *From Mr Boſwell's Tour.*

PONTI profundis clauſa receſſibus,
Strepens procellis, rupibus obſita,
Quam grato deſeſſo virenteм
Skia ſinum nebuloſa pandis.

His cura credo ſedibus exulat;
Hîs blanda certe pax habitat locis;
Non ira, non mœror quietis
Inſidias meditatur horis.

At non cavata rupe lateſcere,
Menti nec ægræ montibus aviis
Prodeſt vagari, nec frementes
E ſcopulo numerare fluctus.

Humana virtus non ſibi ſufficit,
Datur nec æquum cuique animum ſibi
Parare poſſe, ut Stoicorum
Secta crepet nimis alta fallax.

Exſtuantis pectoris impetum,
Rex ſumme, ſolus tu regis arbiter,
Mentiſque, te tollente, ſurgunt,
Te recedunt moderante fluctus.

TRANSLATION.

CLOSE an old Ocean's utmoſt bounds,
Girt with rough waves and rocky mounds,
How grateful to the wearied eye
Expands thy green bay, cloud-capt Sky!

Care ſurely flies theſe ſoft retreats,
And Peace adorns thy gentle ſeats;
Nor Grief nor Anger's voice affright
The calm tranquillity of night.

And yet to climb the hilly heath,
Or ſearch the hollow'd cave beneath,
Or count the white waves as they flow,
Affords no cure for mental woe.

All human aid is weak: To bind
By philoſophic rules the mind,
And curb each with, is weak and vain,
As idly boaſts the Stoic train.

The ſtorms that ſhake the troubled ſoul,
'Tis thine, Almighty, to controul;
And, as thy wiſe decrees diſpoſe,
The tide of paſſion ebbs or flows.

The BEGGAR-WOMAN

DAUGHTER of Penury, this way direct
Thy trembling ſtep; bland Charity ex-
extends
Her ready hand to eaſe
Thy pond'rous load of woe.
Full well thy blood-ſtain'd eye, thy meagre
cheek,
Where pinching hunger pines, thy palſied
limbs,
Atteſt that ſimple truth
Speaks in thy plaintive tale.
O garb unſeemly for a day ſo rude! [ſnows,
No covering ſhields thy head from ſinking
Thy tatter'd cloak invites
The frolic of wild winds.
The pointed flint, the jagged ice aſſault
Thy naked feet, ah naked feet that tread
Nor Pleaſure's flowery path,
Nor ſink in Luxury's down!
Thy delicacy tyrant Want expell'd;
Coy modeſty expir'd, when firſt thy voice
In firmer tone recall'd
The haſtening paſſenger.
Ye fair, who riot in indulgence! cheriſh
Pity's ſoft tear, that ſtarts to ſee this child
Of miſery implore
Her ſex's ſilver aid.

SYMPATHETICUS.

The SNOWBALL, *a* CANTATA.

RECITATIVE.

AS Harriet, wanton as the ſportive roe,
Was pelting Strephon with the new-
fall'n ſnow,
Th' enamour'd youth, who'd long in vain ad-
By ev'ry look and ev'ry geſture ſu'd, [mir'd,
While round his head the harmleſs bullet flew,
Thus breathes his paſſion, prefac'd with a ſigh:

AIR.

Ceaſe, my Charmer, I conjure thee,
Oh! ceaſe this paſtime, too ſevere;
Tho' I burn, ſnow cannot cure me,
Fix'd is the flame that rages here.

Snow in thy hand its chillneſs loſes,
Each flake converts to glowing fire,
Whilſt thy cold breaſt all warmth refuſes;
Thus I by contraries expire.

RECITATIVE.

At humble diſtance thus to tell your pain,
What ſhou'd you meet but coldneſs and diſ-
dain?
Reply'd the laughing Fair.—Obſerve the ſnow,
The Sun retir'd, broods o'er the vale below;
But when approaching near he gilds the day,
It owns the genial flame, and melts away.

AIR.

Whining in this love-ſick ſtrain,
Strephon, you will ſigh in vain;
For your paſſion thus to prove,
Moves my *Pity*, not my *Love*.
Phœbus points you to the prize,
Take the hint—be timely wiſe;
Other arts, perhaps, may move,
And ripen *Pity* into *Love*.

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

DENMARK.

The following is a list of the ships which passed the Sound at Elsineur in 1785.

	Ships.		Ships.
Americans,	20	Imperialists,	66
Bremeners,	176	Lubeckers,	79
Courlanders,	25	Prussians,	1358
Danish,	1789	Portuguese,	28
Dantzickers,	161	Russians,	114
British,	2535	Rostockers,	110
French,	20	Swedish,	2136
Dutch,	1571	Spanish,	15
Hamburghers,	61	Venetians,	4

Total, 10,268 ships.

FRANCE.

Paris, Feb. 2. The King has published an arret for the encouragement of foreign merchants and manufacturers to settle in his dominions, of which the following is the substance:

"The King having been informed, that a number of foreign merchants and manufacturers, who formerly used to import and vend divers merchandises, the introduction of which his Majesty, in order to favour the national commerce, has prohibited, were desirous of settling in France, in order to establish the same manufactures, if his Majesty would be pleased to grant them the same privileges they enjoy in their native country, as well as the liberty of returning after a certain number of years; his Majesty, thinking those demands conformable to his views, grants them the following privileges.

1. He permits merchants and foreign manufacturers of every kind in his dominions, particularly muslins, white and printed linen, silks, stuffs and draperies of all sorts, on condition that they make his country their abode, and fix their personal residence in it at the distance of at least seven leagues from the frontiers, and that they engage before the intendant of the province to effectuate their settlement in the space of a year.

2. On these conditions his Majesty grants an exemption from all duties on the importation of raw materials, such as cotton, thread, ingredients for dying, copper, tin, machines and instruments necessary for their business, as well as their household furniture, within the aforesaid time.

3. His Majesty further grants them and their workmen an exemption from all personal duties for three years."

Paris, Jan. 26. According to the bills of mortality in this capital, calculated by Commissioner Jeron, for 1785, it appears that we have had, during the course of that year, 19,855 christenings, 5234 marriages, 5918 foundlings, and 20,365 burials; increase in the christenings this year 301, in marriages 103, of foundlings 309, and decrease in burials 1413.

Particulars of the ceremony observed at the inauguration of the column erected in the forest of Guisnes, to the honour of Mr Blanchard.

On the 7th of January, at three o'clock P. M. the magistrates of the town of Guisnes, with M. de Guiselain de Bienassise, Mayor and Sindic of the Noblesse of the district of Calais, proceeded to the column which had been erected in the King's forest, where they found M. Blanchard, accompanied by the Viscount Desandroudin, chamberlain to the Emperor and Knight of Malta, as also by M. de Follye, Knight of St Louis and Captain Commandant in the regiment of Poitou.

M. de Launay, King's attorney for the municipal body, then addressed M. Blanchard in the following terms:

"We are proud of the honour, Sir, of having you here at the same day and hour on which you alighted last year; but the sight of this column, and the inscription given for it by the academy, forbid all compliment. This monument, and the act of its inauguration, which we are now going to sign jointly with you, Sir, will supply its place. Both will last to the most remote posterity. Both will immortalise the memory of the first aeronaut who had the courage to cross the seas, and both will bear witness to the just admiration with which we regard an event that will form the most glorious epocha in this century."

M. Blanchard's reply was as follows:

"Gentlemen, This column, the valuable hint of your love for the arts, the inscription with which it has been honoured by the academy, say every thing for you, Gentlemen, and say much more than I have deserved; but how shall I acquit myself? what terms shall I use to express my admiration of, and gratitude for a treatment equally noble and generous? *Silence* and *respect*, Gentlemen, must be my only reply."

The clerk then read the act of inauguration, and received the signatures; after which the company returned to Guisnes, where

where the mayor and eſchevins had cauſed a very magnificent entertainment to be provided, after which there was a ball. The nobleſſe and principal inhabitants, as well as a number of foreigners who had attended at the inauguration, were ſharers of the feſtivity. Among others were two gentlemen who had accompanied M. Blanchard in his aerial voyages, viz. the Chevalier L'Epinard, and M. d'Honicſthun, an officer in the legion of Maillebois.

The only ornament of the hall was a portrait of M Blanchard, with a ſide view of the column, in a medallion encircled by a myrtle wreath, and ſurrounded by a crown of laurel, with this inſcription, written by M. de Laplace, citizen of Calais:

Autant que le François l'Anglois fut intrepide,
Tous les deux ont plané juſqu'au plus haut des airs,
Tous les deux, ſans navaire, ont traverſé les mers,
Mais la France a produit l'inventeur et le guide.

Th' Engliſh and Frenchman have like courage ſhewn;
Both through th' aerial tracts ſublime have flown;
Without a ſhip both croſs'd the dang'rous tide;
But France produc'd th' inventor and the guide.

ENGLAND.

London, Jan. 21. The moſt expeditious trial which has taken place in any court of juſtice, was one which happened at the Old Bailey the firſt day of laſt Seſſions. A man, in the ſhop of Meſſ. ——, attempted to ſteal ſixteen ſmall braſs weights, but being detected by the ſhopman, he was brought before the ſitting alderman about twelve o'clock, committed to Newgate, a bill found againſt him, tried, convicted, ſentenced, whipped, and ſent about his buſineſs before five o'clock the ſame day; the Recorder judiciouſly obſerving, that one night's impriſonment would do him more hurt than any puniſhment could atone for.

On Jan. 28. A very large ox, bred and fed on the grounds at Raby Caſtle, the ſeat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Darlington, was brought into Newcaſtle in a vehicle made for the purpoſe, and drawn by ſeven horſes. On his paſſing through Sunderland Bridge Gate, he was weighed, and his weight alive amounted to 220 ſtone 10 lb. He was ſix feet five inches high, and meaſured, between the ears and the rump, eleven feet five inches. He was killed on Wedneſday, when he produced 21 ſtone of tallow, and his hide weighed 10 ſtone 10 lb.

On Wedneſday, Feb. 8. was tried at Guildhall, before Lord Loughborough and a reſpectable jury, a cauſe wherein one Cole, a ſoldier of the guards, was plaintiff, and Mr Crowe, late Captain of an independent company of foot, was defendant. It appeared that Cole had been a ſoldier of military experience, and in conſideration of his going over from Ireland to England to take care of the recruits belonging to Capt. Crowe's company, and to inliſt more, Capt. Crowe promiſed him an Enſigncy as ſoon as one Mr Marſh, for whom it was intended, ſhould be otherwiſe provided. Mr Cole came over to England, and was very uſeful; but Mr Marſh being provided for, Capt. Crowe, inſtead of giving his Enſigncy to Cole, ſold it. The injury which Cole ſuſtained in conſequence of this breach of promiſe, was the ſubject of the action; and the jury, under the direction of the learned judge, and to the great ſatisfaction of the hearers, found a verdict in favour of the plaintiff for 250l. damages.

On Friday, Feb. 10, came on in the court of King's Bench, before Lord Manſfield, the trial of thirteen priſoners for debt, in the King's Bench priſon, who ſome months ſince were committed to the New Goal, for attempting to blow up the walls of the ſaid priſon. The charge and the evidence againſt the priſoners appeared to be to the following purport:

Mr Walker, the Marſhal of the King's Bench, and who was corroborated by the evidence of Lewis, the turnkey of the priſon, and one Humphreys a watchman, and Ward a conſtable, depoſed, that for near a fortnight before the attempt, the priſoners had been exceedingly riotous, and there had been much talk in the priſon of eſcaping: That about two o'clock in the morning of the 14th day of Auguſt laſt, being a Sunday, the watchman on the outſide of the wall of the priſon heard a noiſe of ſome perſons knocking and boring in the wall, on which he immediately went and alarmed the Marſhal, who, with ſome others, went cautiouſly towards the place where the noiſe proceeded from; and ſent the turnkey, Lewis, up to the top of an adjoining building which overlooked the place, and from thence he could, by the light of a candle which was held by one of the priſoner's, diſcern ano-

ther

ther of them (one Boyton or Bacon), at work with a bricklayer's hammer in his hand, cutting a hole in the wall: That they continued at this till they had made an opening of two feet depth, two in width, 18 inches in height; they then proceeded to put in a large apothecary's morter full of gunpowder into the hole, and close it up again with dirt and bricks, placing fusees, or cartridges with tin pipes, for the purpose of setting it a-light. Lewis staid till they had nearly completed it, being then about four o'clock, when he came down, and, on giving notice to the Marshal and the attendants, they rushed on them, and soon secured the thirteen prisoners, every one of whom were identified by some or all of the witnesses; — amongst these the most active was one Boyne, who had formerly been in the army. The mortar and several implements were produced in court. Two watchmen, who had been set to watch the inside of the prison, were inveigled away by three or four of the prisoners to the Brace, a public house within the prison, where they were detained till the detection by the Marshal; and during their being there, saw several of the prisoners come in and sit down as tired, to rest themselves, and observed their shoes were all over brick-dust and mortar.

This was the amount of the evidence on the part of the prosecution; and it was very weakly combated on the part of some of the prisoners, by evidence of their being engaged in drinking, or, in their terms, out of the way of the mischief.— Lord Mansfield, in summing up to the jury, observed, that it was perfectly right that such daring offenders should be brought to punishment. He remarked, that it is not necessary to prove an actual conspiring and consultation together of the prisoners; if they concurred in the act, that was a conspiracy. The weight of the evidence on each side he left to the jury.

After going out of court for about a quarter of an hour, the jury brought in their verdict *Guilty*, as to every one of the prisoners.

The four principal ringleaders were sentenced to be confined in Newgate three years, three of them to find security for the same term after the expiration of their imprisonment. Six were ordered to be confined in Surrey bridewell for two years; and three in the house of correction for the same term, and to find security for their good behaviour for two years.

SCOTLAND.

On Wednesday, Jan. 11. a very numerous and most respectable meeting of the landed interest of Scotland was held in the parliament-house, agreeable to advertisements for that purpose, in order to consider of the present distresses of the country, occasioned by the vigorous execution of the distillery laws, and to receive the report of their committee upon that subject. The report was accordingly produced, approved of, ordered to be printed, and circulated through the several counties of Scotland. A number of gentlemen delivered their opinions, at considerable length, on the distresses which they and their tenants at present labour under, from the sale of barley being entirely put a stop to. A motion, to the following purport, was at last made by the Earl of Hopetoun, That the preses of the meeting, Mr Buchan-Hepburn, should be impowered to write letters to all the Scots members, particularly the Lord Advocate, and the Rt Hon. Henry Dundas, the former as being the principal crown-officer for this kingdom, and the latter as being member for the county in which they were then sitting, requesting them to wait in a body upon the Lords of the Treasury, and to solicit from them such impartial and immediate redress as it was in the power of the officers of the Crown to grant, at the present alarming crisis; till a new bill could be brought forward, and passed into a law, regulating the distillery in Scotland. It was likewise moved by his Lordship, That the committee who prepared the report should be appointed to draw up the bill, together with the Lord Advocate and Solicitor General, whose assistance they were desired to request in that business. This met with the unanimous approbation of the meeting. Sir William Augustus Cunninghame then moved, That a convener of the Scots members should be named, otherwise it would be impossible to have them all collected together so as to wait upon the minister in a body; and proposed the Rt Hon. Henry Dundas for that purpose. The meeting, however, notwithstanding all Sir William's remonstrances against being named to that office, unanimously appointed himself to be convener. The principal speakers were, Lord Hopetoun, Sir John Dalrymple, Sir William Augustus Cunninghame,

hame, Sir Philip Ainſlie, Mr Bruce of Kinnaird, Mr Fordyce of Aytoun, Mr Dewar of Vogrie, Mr Erſkine of Mar, Mr Buchan Hepburn of Smeaton, &c.

The annual general meeting of the Highland Society of Edinburgh was held on Tueſday Jan. 10. when the following officers were elected, viz. Duke of Argyle, Preſident; Earl of Moray, Earl of Aboyne, Lord Advocate, and Sir Wm Forbes of Pitſligo, Bt, Vice-Preſidents; David Steuart, Eſq; Treaſurer; William M'Donald, Eſq; Secretary; Mr John Leſly, writer to the ſignet, Depute-Secretary; Mr Alexander M'Lachlan, writer in Edinburgh, Recorder and Clerk; Donald M'Donald, door keeper and meſſenger.

On Wedneſday Jan. 25. the preſbytery of Edinburgh met, when the cauſe reſpecting the legality of the preſentation granted by the magiſtrates and town-council, in favour of Dr Andrew Hunter miniſter of the New Grayfriars pariſh, to be miniſter of the Tron Church, was finally ſettled. Very long papers were read on the ſubject, which had been ſubmitted to the conſideration of Meſſ. Maclaurin, Rolland, and Robertſon, Advocates, for their opinion as counſel, which opinion was alſo read. Theſe gentlemen did not entertain the ſmalleſt doubt, that both in law, as well as in equity, the town council had a clear right to grant the preſentation in the form given to Dr Hunter. After theſe papers were read, Principal Robertſon obſerved, that, from the beginning of this buſineſs, he was perfectly ſatisfied of the validity of the preſentation in queſtion, and that the council had a legal right to grant it. He was not preſent when the propoſal was made to conſult gentlemen learned in the law upon the ſubject, otherwiſe he would certainly have given his negative to ſuch a meaſure. As it had been done, however, and as thoſe profeſſional gentlemen had given ſo clear and explicit an opinion, which entirely coincided with his own, he was ſtill further confirmed in it. He therefore moved, That the preſbytery ſhould ſuſtain the preſentation, and give the neceſſary directions for carrying the tranſlation of Dr Hunter into effect. This motion was ſeconded by Dr Macknight. Dr Erſkine and Mr Kemp, though they were not altogether ſatisfied in their own minds, of the right the town-council had to grant ſuch preſentations as the one now under conſideration; yet, as the learned counſel had been ſo deciſively of different ſentiments, they would not oppoſe their opinions to thoſe of ſuch learned and reſpectable gentlemen. They would therefore make no objections to Principal Robertſon's motion being adopted. But, for the ſake of thoſe who were to come after them, and to ſhew the preſbytery had not gone raſhly into a meaſure they could not help conſidering as at leaſt a novel one, they hoped the preſbytery would have no objection to allow all the papers, together with the opinion of the counſel, to be entered upon their record. — This was unanimouſly agreed to; and the ſentence being read in the uſual form, the Lord Provoſt took inſtruments in the clerk's hands, and craved that the town-council might be furniſhed with extracts of all the papers above mentioned. Mr Hugh Buchan, chamberlain, then moved, That as, by this day's deciſion, there was no occaſion for the preſbytery to determine on the proteſt taken by him, in name of the town council, with the anſwers by the preſbytery, on account of their delaying the buſineſs at laſt ſederunt, he might be allowed to withdraw his proteſt; which was granted.

A particular ſtate of the funds of the Edinburgh Diſpenſary, and of its effects ſince the laſt annual report, [vol. 47. p. 153.], was laid before the contributors at their meeting, Jan. 28; by which it appears, that 1099 patients have been admitted to the benefits of it during laſt year.—The following is the general ſtate of the patients ſince the commencement of the charity.—In 1777, the number of patients amounted to 275; in 1778, 511; in 1779, 505; in 1780, 774; in 1781, 994; in 1782, 1026; in 1783, 1939; in 1784, 907; in 1785, 1099; total, 8030.—*N. B.* From the ſtate of the funds of the Diſpenſary, the general meeting in January 1784 found it neceſſary to give orders, that thoſe patients only ſhould be ſupplied with medicines, who were recommended by contributors, and this regulation is ſtill continued.

On Friday, Jan. 20. the Court of Seſſion determined a cauſe of a very ſingular nature.—Some years ago, the Rev. Mr William Shaw, formerly miniſter of Ardolach in the county of Nairn, publiſhed by ſubſcription a Dictionary of the Gaelic language. Previous to the publication, propoſals were exhibited to the

the public, containing an enumeration of various particulars, which it was propoſed ſhould be inſerted in the Dictionary, and a reſpectable number of ſubſcribers were obtained. After the Dictionary was printed and publiſhed, about four fifths of the ſubſcribers accepted of the book, and paid their ſubſcription-money; but ſeveral of the ſubſcribers declined paying their ſubſcriptions; alledging, that as the author had not ſpecifically fulfilled the terms of his propoſals, they were not bound to accept of the book, which they alſo declared was a very bad performance, and in no view a proper Dictionary of the Gaelic language. An action was brought by Mr Shaw againſt the refractory ſubſcribers, before the Court of Seſſion, in which a proof was led, as to the merit of the work; and all the witneſſes agreed, that the author had not fulfilled the terms of his propoſals; although one or two of the witneſſes, at the ſame time, thought that the Dictionary was an acquiſition to the Gaelic language, and declared that they had derived conſiderable benefit from it. The Court, after hearing very ingenious pleadings by the counſel for both parties, were of opinion, That although the purſuer had not fulfilled the terms of his printed propoſals; yet as the defenders could not inſtruct that he had wilfully ſuppreſſed any of his materials, or been guilty of fraud or deceit in the execution of the book, that therefore the ſubſcribers were liable; and the Court alſo found the purſuer intitled to his expences.

On Thurſday, Feb. 16. a caſe of importance regarding elections was decided by the court of ſeſſion. Previous to Michaelmas election 1784, the Council of Dunfermline, which conſiſts of twenty-two perſons, were equally divided, but the caſting vote of the provoſt gave his party a majority. The other party finding that two of the Provoſt's voters were not in opulent circumſtances, and owed ſmall debts in the country, procured the command of theſe debts, and executed diligence upon them, with a view either to concuſs the debtors over to their ſide, or lay the foundation of a challenge of bribery againſt the other party, if they ſhould interpoſe for the relief of their voters. The party, however, did interpoſe, and paid off the debts, to ſome of which they took aſſignments, and others not; and by this means theſe two perſons obtained their liberty, and attended and voted at Michaelmas 1784, by which the Provoſt's party carried all the ſteps of that election. The other party complained to the court of ſeſſion; and it came out in proof that the debts were paid, which the complainers concluded was a direct act of bribery and corruption, and that the two debtors voting under the influence of that corruption, their votes could not be ſuſtained, and, in ſtriking them off, the complainers had a majority. It was anſwered on the part of the defenders, That it was evident, from the proof and whole circumſtances of the caſe, that the debts paid had been picked up, and diligence executed, not with a fair view of recovering the debts, but the illegal purpoſe of influencing the election, and depriving the debtors of the exerciſe of their franchiſe; a proſtitution of the diligence of the law to a very dangerous purpoſe. The court ſuſtained the defence, and found the complainers liable in full coſts of ſuit; at the ſame time, expreſſing their diſapprobation, in very ſtrong terms, of the miſapplication which had, in this inſtance, been made of legal diligence.

On Monday Feb. 6. came on before the High Court of Juſticiary, the trial of John Haugh and William Haugh, both ſons of William Haugh farmer in Dardarroch, in the pariſh of Glencairn, and county of Dumfries, indicted for having, on the night betwixt the 5th and 6th of September laſt, broke into the ſhop of William Smith merchant at Kirkland of Glencairn, in the county of Dumfries, and ſtealing from thence a number of ſilk handkerchiefs, ſome mens hats, two pieces of corderoy, a piece of Buckram, ſeveral dozens of ſilver plated ſleeve buttons, two ſilk and cotton waiſtcoats, a cryſtal glaſs decanter, &c. &c. The jury gave in their verdict next day, unanimouſly finding both pannels guilty, upon which they were ſentenced to be hanged at the common place of execution at Edinburgh, on Wedneſday March 22.

The Court met Feb. 13. and proceeded to the trial of Walter Roſs, ſon of the deceaſed Walter Roſs, flax-dreſſer in Edinburgh, indicted for three different acts of theft, by picking one gentleman's pocket, in the ſtreet of Glaſgow, on the 1ſt of September laſt, of his pocket-book, containing fifteen twenty ſhil-

ling notes, one five-pound note, and three guinea-notes; and of picking two perſons pockets, on the Caſtlehill of Edinburgh, on the 5th of October laſt, from one of whom he abſtracted a pocket book, containing ſeventeen or eighteen guinea-notes, and from the other an almanack, containing thirteen bank-notes, partly twenty-ſhilling and partly guinea notes. He was alſo accuſed of being habite and repute a thief, and of having been baniſhed the county for life, by ſentence of the ſheriff of Edinburgh. Mr John Wilde, as counſel for the pannel, in pleading the relevancy, objected to that part of the indictment which libelled the pannel with being habite and repute a thief, and founding upon the ſentence of the ſheriff for that purpoſe, when the indictment did not ſtate for what crime the ſentence of baniſhment was pronounced. Mr Solicitor-General admitted, that there was a ſmall inaccuracy in the libel, by the omiſſion of two words; but that that defect would be remedied by production of the ſentence itſelf, which was libelled upon, and lodged in the clerk's hands for that purpoſe. The Lords ſeverally delivered their opinions upon the ſubject, when they were pleaſed to find, that the ſentence of the ſheriff could not be remitted to the knowledge of an aſſize as evidence againſt the pannel, ſeeing the indictment did not ſpecify for what crime he had been baniſhed. Mr Solicitor-General not chuſing to have this part of the evidence withheld from the jury, deſerted the diet *pro loco et tempore*, and applied for a new warrant of commitment againſt the pannel, which was granted, as he means to ſerve him with a new indictment, when the omiſſion complained of will be remedied.

On Wedneſday, Jan. 18. in conſequence of advertiſements in the newspapers, a meeting of ſubſcribers to the plan of a General Chamber of Commerce and Manufactures for Scotland, was held in the New Church Aile, Edinburgh, for the purpoſe of chuſing a Chairman, two Deputy Chairmen, Secretary, Treaſurer, and thirty Directors, when the following were elected:—Rt Hon. James Hunter Blair, Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, Chairman; David Steuart, Eſq; banker in Edinburgh, and Alexander Sheriff, Eſq; merchant in Leith, Deputy Chairmen; James Mansfield, Eſq; banker in Edinburgh, Treaſurer; Earl of Roſeberry; Sir William Forbes, Bt; Sir John Inglis, Bt, of Cramond; Meſſ. John Aitchiſon diſtiller, St Clement's Wells; Robert Allan banker, Edinburgh; William Allan merchant, Queensferry; William Bell merchant, Leith; William Cadell merchant, Carron-park; George Chalmers merchant, Edinburgh; William Creech bookſeller, Edinburgh; Alexander Crichton coachmaker, Edinburgh; John Davie, Edinburgh; Patrick Downie, Preſtonpans; Thomas Edington merchant, Cramond; Thomas Elder merchant, Edinburgh; Peter Forreſter merchant, Edinburgh; Archibald Geddes, glaſshouſe, Leith; James Haig diſtiller, Canonmills; Orlando Hart ſhoemaker, Edinburgh; John Learmonth merchant, Edinburgh; Archibald M'Dowall merchant, Edinburgh; James Morriſon, jun. merchant, Leith; Andrew Paton, ſoapboiler, Leith; James Pillans merchant, Leith; John Robertſon printer, Edinburgh; John Scougal merchant, Leith; William Sibbald merchant, Leith; James Stirling banker, Edinburgh; John Watſon cooper, Leith; Robert Young upholſterer, Edinburgh; Directors. Meſſ. Alexander Bonnar banker, Edinburgh; John Hay banker, Edinburgh; John Jamieſon merchant, Leith; William Simpſon, Royal Bank; Thomas Williamſon merchant, Leith; Auditors of the Treaſurer's accounts.

The election of a Secretary was poſtponed to another day.

The meeting was very numerous and reſpectable, and the greateſt unanimity and harmony prevailed.

The Chamber met again in the ſame place on Feb. 15. in order to chuſe a Secretary, the Rt Hon. James Hunter Blair, Lord Provoſt, in the chair.

The Lord Provoſt, before opening the buſineſs of the meeting, begged to ſpeak for a little with the Directors in another room. They having accordingly withdrawn, returned in a few minutes, when his Lordſhip acquainted the meeting, that the Directors not having as yet agreed upon a perſon for Secretary, they begged leave to propoſe, that Mr James Morriſon jun. who had been ſo obliging as to officiate in the mean time, along with Mr William Creech, ſhould be elected as Joint Secretaries for a year. This was unanimouſly agreed to.

His Lordſhip then read a letter he had received from the tutors of Miſs Scott, proprietor of the Iſle of May, in conſequence

quence of a complaint being made in the newſpapers, that the lights kept on that iſland had not been properly attended to, by which means ſeveral veſſels had been loſt. The letter ſaid, that no complaints had been made to the tutors on that head, and that they were willing to do every thing in their power to have the lights and light-houſe put on the beſt footing.

Mr Caſſils ſaid, that the ſubject before them was of the utmoſt importance to the trade of this part of Scotland—That repeated complaints had been made by the maſters of many trading veſſels, of the Iſle of May being very ill lighted; that the ſailors on board had offered to declare this before a magiſtrate; and that, in particular, they often got ſight of the iſland before they could ſee the lights. Nor was this complaint confined to the maſters of trading veſſels only; the Captain of the Race-Horſe cutter had made the ſame complaint to the Admiralty; for proof of which he produced Mr Stephens' letter, in anſwer to one from Capt. Wilſon on that ſubject. Mr Caſſils ſaid, the members of the Trinity Houſe, Leith, had had frequent meetings on this buſineſs; that they had refuſed paying the dues till this complaint was redreſſed; that they wiſhed Government, or the Trinity Houſe, London, would take the lights of May into their own hands, as, in all probability, they would then be kept in better order. They had a view of petitioning the Houſe of Commons for that purpoſe.

Mr Creech upon this obſerved, that it would be improper to petition the Houſe of Commons on that head, before application was made to Miſs Scott's truſtees, who, from their letter, ſeemed diſpoſed to grant any reaſonable redreſs. He would therefore propoſe, that a committee of the Trinity Houſe, Leith, and a committee of the Chamber of Commerce, ſhould examine into this fact, and wait upon Miſs Scott's Truſtees. This was unanimouſly agreed to.

Mr David Steuart then moved, that to give efficacy, as well as ſtability to the Chamber, a Royal Charter ſhould be applied for. He obſerved, that without this is obtained, buſineſs could ſcarce be carried on at all, or at leaſt to very little effect, as the Chamber would not have a name known in law, ſo that every application which might be deemed for the general benefit of the country, behoved to be ſigned by every member individually. On the other hand, were the Charter once obtained, and he could not entertain a doubt that any Miniſtry, particularly the preſent, who had diſcovered ſo much attention to the trading intereſt of the country, would refuſe it, buſineſs would be carried on in a regular manner, and no other ſignature would be neceſſary but that of their Secretary. Mr Steuart had the leſs reaſon to ſuppoſe any obſtacle would ſtand in the way of ſuch an application, from the readineſs with which the Chamber of Commerce of Glaſgow obtained their charter [vol. 45. p. 502]. Indeed, Mr Steuart obſerved, when it was conſidered, that no application could be made to Government, but what was previouſly and deliberately determined upon by a Chairman and thirty Directors, compoſed of different deſcriptions of merchants and manufacturers, and afterwards canvaſſed by the Chamber at large, it was impoſſible for any improper demand to be made from that quarter. This motion was alſo unanimouſly approved of.

Mr Steuart then moved, that Mr Suttie, Solicitor at Law, ſhould be empowered to manage this buſineſs in London, which was likewiſe agreed to.

On Feb. 11. in conſequence of a complaint from the maſters of the High School, Edinburgh, there was a viſitation of that ſeminary by the Lord Provoſt and Magiſtrates, when two boys were expelled the ſchool; the one, for ſtabbing one of his ſchool-fellows with a knife in a dangerous manner; the other, for attempting to ſhoot his maſter with a piſtol. The whole claſſes being convened together, under their reſpective maſters, the Lord Provoſt made a ſuitable ſpeech to the young gentlemen on the occaſion, which, it is to be hoped, will have a proper effect on their future behaviour.

Tueſday Feb. 14. agreeable to advertiſements, there was held in the New Church ayle, Edinburgh, a meeting of the ſhop-keepers of that city, Canongate, and Leith, Mr Thomas Trotter in the chair, in order to conſider of the proper mode to be followed in obtaining a repeal of the ſhop-tax act. A petition had previouſly been prepared by the committee appointed by laſt general meeting, which being read and approved of, Mr Elphingſtone Balfour, bookſeller, ſuggeſted the neceſſity of the meeting applying to

ſome member of Parliament to preſent their petition in the Houſe of Commons. Mr Balfour agreed, that the perſon that would naturally occur for that purpoſe was, no doubt, Sir Adam Ferguſſon, the worthy repreſentative for this city, on whoſe public and private virtues Mr Balfour diſcanted at ſome length. He however obſerved, that when Sir Adam was waited upon by the committee, though he very politely offered to preſent their petition; yet he, at the ſame time, with his uſual candour, declared he could not give it his ſupport in the Houſe. In theſe circumſtances, Mr Balfour thought it would be paying no compliment to Sir Adam, to tranſmit the petition to him; while, on the other hand, their doing ſo might be conſidered as a very faint attempt indeed of getting relief from the grievance of which they all complained. He would therefore move, that application ſhould be made to William Adam, Eſq; repreſentative for the burghs of Kintore, &c. who, he was perſuaded, would not only accept of the office, but likewiſe give the petition his warmeſt ſupport in the Houſe of Commons. This motion having met with the general approbation of the meeting, a number of thoſe preſent immediately ſigned the petition, and it was to be ſent round among the ſhopkeepers who did not attend, for their ſignatures.

Edinburgh, Feb. 17. The Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh, having received the following Reſolutions, think it their duty to cauſe publiſh them; and in order that the opportunity of a law during this ſeſſion of parliament may not be loſt, they propoſe petitioning the Houſe of Commons before March 3. the laſt day of preſenting petitions for private bills, for leave to bring in a bill for a better proviſion for the poor of this city, which bill, before it is ſent to parliament, will be communicated to the different ſocieties for their conſideration.

RESOLUTIONS.

Edinburgh, Feb. 16. A general meeting of the ninety-ſix managers of the Charity work-houſe being this day called, by order of a meeting of the fifteen managers of the 15th current, and William Creech choſen preſes,—The treaſurer acquainted the meeting, that he had put the books of the houſe into the hands of Mr Forreſt, the city's accountant, to make out from them a ſtatement of the preſent ſituation of the affairs of the houſe:—That Mr Forreſt had accordingly made up a report, the tenor of which follows:

1*mo*, That the debt of the houſe on July 1. 1785, amounted to 2932l. 7s. 7½d. 2*do*, That the annual average for the laſt thirteen years, is 678l. 9d.

The treaſurer thought it his duty to lay this ſtatement before the managers, and begged they would take ſome effectual meaſures for the ſupport of the credit of the Houſe, which was every day diminiſhing, and now almoſt exhauſted.

In conſequence of this ſtatement of the affairs of the Houſe, and the requeſt of the treaſurer, the Preſes begged leave to recal the attention of the managers, to what he had propoſed upon a ſimilar ſtatement of the affairs of the Houſe in July 1783, which had been followed by an order from the Honourable Council for a general voluntary contribution. The conſequences, he ſaid, of a partial relief, without having an eſtabliſhed fund for the maintenance of the poor of the city, was now apparent; and diſtreſs, like the preſent, would again recur, if no other means were taken than voluntary contributions. He repreſented, that notwithſtanding the utmoſt attention and frugality obſerved in the management of the funds of the charity, that it has been found, from the experience of many years, that they have never been ſufficient for the maintenance of the numerous poor intitled to claim relief, and received into the Houſe.

That it appeared from the books, that the annual expenditure for many years had exceeded the annual income 678l. 9d. upon an average.

That voluntary contributions had often been tried, and many of them had even been liberal, for the relief of the Charity, but that they ſerved only as temporary aids. That the meaſure was only a tax upon a few of the benevolent, while many from diſapprobation at the mode, others from indolence, inattention, or parſimony, did not contribute at all. That if ſuch a mode was again propoſed, little ſucceſs could be expected. He ſaid, for inſtance, that the reſpectable incorporation of Goldſmiths at the laſt contribution had tranſmitted twenty guineas, but accompanied the donation with a letter, ſaying, "That though they have no ſort of doubt, that the

the charity is properly managed under the preſent directors, yet they are reſolved to give no more aid to the Charity Workhouſe, unleſs a proper application ſhall be made for aſſeſſing the inhabitants of Edinburgh, equally and proportionally, for the Charity; as the incorporation is ſenſible, that a great part of the moſt opulent of the inhabitants do not contribute at all to the ſupport of the charity." Verbal informations to the ſame purpoſe had been given in by other incorporations, and many reſpectable individuals coincided. Another incorporation had alſo moved, That the reſidence of people for three years, which entitled them to the city's charity, ſhould be extended to a longer period, as might be ſeen by the minutes of the Houſe, dated June 1. 1784.

Mr Creech, therefore, begged leave to propoſe the following reſolutions to the meeting, which he ſaid he had before done in part, as would appear from the minutes of the general meeting of managers, July 29. 1783, viz.

Reſolved,—I. That it is the opinion of this meeting, that effectual means ſhould be taken for eſtabliſhing funds equal to the exigencies of the charity.

—II. That it is the opinion of this meeting, that an equal aſſeſſment ſhould be laid upon the inhabitants at large for this purpoſe.

—III. That it is the opinion of this meeting, that as this charity takes in and relieves the poor of every claſs of the community, no claſs or rank of inhabitants whatever ſhould, or can with juſtice be exempted from providing for the poor.

—IV. That it is the opinion of this meeting, that if ſufficient and permanent funds cannot be provided for the ſupport of this charity in an amicable way, recourſe ſhould be had to the laws of the country, eſtabliſhed for maintaining the poor, to prevent the total ruin of an inſtitution ſo beneficial and humane.

—V. That it is the opinion of this meeting, that the charity would be much benefited by an extenſion of the period of reſidence that entitles perſons to be received into the Houſe.

—VI. That it is the opinion of this meeting, That the above reſolutions be tranſmitted to the Rt Hon. the Lord Provoſt, and the Hon. the Magiſtrates and Council, for their conſideration.

Theſe reſolutions being ſeconded, and agreed to by the whole meeting, except Mr John Dickſon, Advocate, Mr Iſaac Grant, and Mr James Fraſer, writers to the ſignet, who objected to reſolutions 2d, 3d, and 4th:—

Mr Creech then moved, That, in order to aſcertain who were entitled to the benefit of the charity, and to prevent impoſitions upon it, the Hon. Council ſhould be requeſted to order the names and numbers in the families in the different pariſhes of this city to be annually taken in the month of June: That no perſon whoſe name and deſignation was not found in the pariſh-books, ſhould be entitled to the benefit of the charity: That hence every poor perſon entitled to the city's charity would be relieved upon application, and the begging poor might be prevented from infeſting the ſtreets, and ſent to their reſpective pariſhes: That a book ſhould be kept by every pariſh for this purpoſe; each page of which ſhould be divided into ſix columns; the firſt column to contain the name of the family and profeſſion; the ſecond, the place and time of reſidence; the third, the number of the family; the fourth, the number of ſervants, and their names; the fifth, the number of lodgers; and the ſixth, remarks.

This motion was unanimouſly agreed to.

Mr Creech concluded with moving, That this meeting do alſo inform the Hon. Council, that the managers of the Charity Workhouſe, however much they are inclined to ſerve the cauſe of charity, and to take their ſhare of duty for the public good, yet they cannot ſtruggle with impoſſibilities; and if any perſons in the community are inclined to take charge of the funds, ſo as to make them better anſwer the purpoſes of the inſtitution, the managers are willing to reſign their places; and they leave it to the Hon. Council, or the different ſocieties and incorporations of the city, to appoint their ſucceſſors.—This motion was alſo unanimouſly agreed to.

It was then moved, That a minute of this day's tranſactions be forthwith conveyed to the Rt Hon. the Lord Provoſt and Hon. Council; which being agreed to, was ordered accordingly.

WILLIAM CREECH, *Preſes.*

MAR-

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 30. Mr John M'Caul, merchant in Glaſgow, to Miſs Sarah Gordon, daughter of the deceaſed Dr Gordon, of St Kitt's.

Feb. 13. At London, Henry Drummond jun. Eſq; banker, to Miſs Dundas, daughter of the Rt Hon. Henry Dundas.

14. At Airds, Argyleſhire, Capt. Murdoch Maclaine of Lochbuy, to Miſs Jane Campbell, eldeſt daughter of Major John Campbell of Airds.

17. At Edinburgh, Mr Charles Campbell, to Miſs Harriet Fraſer, eldeſt daughter of Col. Charles Fraſer.

18. At Caſtle Huntly, the Rev. Dr Duncan, of the Epiſcopal chapel, Dundee, to Miſs Johnſton, daughter of Mr James Johnſton, ſurgeon.

BIRTHS.

Feb. 4. At London, the Lady of Lord Macdonald, of a ſon.

18. Her Sicilian Majeſty, of a princeſs, named Maria Clotilda.

DEATHS.

Lately, at Madras, Maj-Gen. Sir John Burgoyne, Bt.

Dec. 17. 1785. At the manſe of Jura, in the 20th year of his miniſtry, Mr Alexander Hoſack, miniſter of Jura and Colonſay. He had the largeſt charge and of the moſt difficult acceſs of any in the Highlands.

29. At Leiceſter, aged 69, Mrs Mary Noble, who had kept her bed for 51 years and 8 months, and during that ſpace ate no meat, nor drank any thing but tea and water till within the laſt year, when nature ſeemed nearly exhauſted, ſhe was compelled to take ſomething rather better, though the quantity was very ſmall. She uſed to ſmoke a great deal, but for ſome time paſt was not able to light her pipe.

At the extraordinary age of 110 years, 8 months, and 14 days, in the full enjoyment of every faculty except ſtrength and quickneſs of hearing, Cardinal de Salis, Archbiſhop of Seville. He uſed to tell his friends, when aſked what regimen he obſerved, "By being old when I was young, I find myſelf young now I am old. I led a ſober, ſtudious, but not a lazy or ſedentary life. My diet was ſparing, though delicate; my liquors the beſt wines of Xerez and La Mancha, of which I never exceeded a pint at any meal, except in cold weather, when I allowed myſelf a third more. I rode or walked every day, except in rainy weather, when I exerciſed for a couple of hours. So far I took care for the body: and as to the mind, I endeavoured to preſerve it in due temper by a ſcrupulous obedience to the Divine commands, and keeping (as the Apoſtle directs) a conſcience void of offence towards God and man. By theſe innocent means I have arrived at the age of a patriarch with leſs injury to my health and conſtitution than many experience at forty. I am now, like the ripe corn, ready for the ſickle of death, and, by the mercy of my Redeemer, have ſtrong hopes of being tranſlated into his garner."—"Glorious old age!" ſaid the King of Spain. "Would to Heaven he had appointed a ſucceſſor; for the people of Seville have been ſo long uſed to excellence, they will never be ſatisfied with the beſt prelate I can ſend them."—The Cardinal was of a noble houſe in the province of Andaluſia, and the laſt ſurviving ſon of Don Antonio de Salis, hiſtoriographer to Philip IV. and author of the Conqueſt of Mexico.

Jan 26. 1786. At Hatfield, Herts, Mr John Palmer, aged 100, late wheeler to the Earl of Saliſbury. Being 100 years of age on Michaelmas day laſt (his birth-day), the ſame was celebrated at his Lordſhip's expence

27. At the manſe of Shotts, the Rev. Mr Lawrence Wells, miniſter of that pariſh.

28. At Banff, Sir William Dunbar of Durn, Bt.

29. At Murdeſtoun, Mrs Crawford, widow of John Crawford, Eſq; of Doonſide.

29. At Dudingſtone, Weſt Lothian, Miſs Ann Binning, ſiſter of William Binning, Eſq; Advocate.

30. At Edinburgh, Dr David Spence, phyſician.

30. At New Buſh of Fiſher-row, Mr Robert Speid.

30 In his 64th year, Mr William Duguid, merchant in Aberdeen.

30. At Barras, the Lady of Sir William Ogilvie of Barras, Bt.

30. Dame Eliſabeth Cleghorn, relict of Sir James Clerk of Pennycuick.

31. Dr David Stuart, phyſician in Aberdeen.

Lately Mr Zachariah Aldridge, of Lacy's Green, Bucks. He was interred in linen, and the bells tolled in different pariſhes. As he had been fond of planting and digging, at the deſire of his diſconſolate widow, an excellent ſermon was preached from the following text of ſcripture: "A certain man planted a vineyard, and ſet a hedge about it, and digged a place for the wine vat, and built a tower, and let it out to huſbandmen, and went into a far country." Mark, xii. 1.

Feb. At Tetbury, aged 102, Anne Davis. This woman had the perfect uſe of her faculties till the laſt minute. She had not been out of her room for upwards of thirty years, nor ever during that period, even in the moſt extreme cold weather, would ſuffer any fire in her chamber.

Mr John Inglis, rector of the high ſchool Canongate, Edinburgh.

1. At Bruſſels, George Beauclerk, Duke of St Albans, Earl of Burford, Hereditary Regiſter of the court of Chancery; Lord Lieutenant and Cuſtos Rotulorum of the county

county of Berks, and High Steward of the Corporation of Windſor. His Grace having died without iſſue, is ſucceeded in his titles and eſtates by his ſecond couſin George Beauclerk, lieutenant of the third regiment of guards

1. At Lauriefton, in the county of Kincardine, Mrs Eliſabeth Scott, relict of James Milne, of Old Montroſe, Eſq;

2. At Dunmow, in Eſſex, aged 107, Mary Jones. She retained her ſenſes to the laſt, but had been bedridden for ſeveral years.

3 At Stirling, James Moir, Eſq; of Miltown, late provoſt of that burgh.

3. At Poplar, Capt. Barnſton, aged 101. He was upwards of 60 years in the Leeward Iſlands trade.

5. At Oldfield, near Thurſo, Patrick Doull, Eſq; of Oldfield.

5. At Glaſgow, Mrs Iſabella Bryſon, widow of Robert Dreghorn, Eſq; of Blochern, merchant in Glaſgow.

7. At Edinburgh, James Macdowall, Eſq; of Canonmills.

7. At Kirkaldy, Robert Whyt, Eſq; collector of his Majeſty's cuſtoms, Kirkaldy.

7. At Edinburgh, Mr Joſeph Thomſon, of Norton-hall of Eildon.

8. At Edinburgh, Miſs Dick, daughter of the deceaſed Mr Andrew Dick, writer to the ſignet.

10. At Gratna manſe, in a very advanced age, Mrs Jean Gowdielock, ſpouſe of the Rev. Mr James Gath.

10. At London, Lt-Gen. Theodore Dury, in the 87th year of his age.

11. At Edinburgh, Miſs Margaret Watſon, third daughter of the late Dr Watſon, Principal of the United College of St Andrew's.

11. At Aberdeen, Mrs Baxter, relict of Capt. Baxter, aged 91.

12. At London, Samuel Marriott, Eſq; accountant-general in the exciſe office, aged 67.

12 At Dundee, Robert Wedderburn, Eſq;

13. At Kelſton, near Bath, Sir Cæſar Hawkins, ſerjeant-ſurgeon to the King.

13 At York houſe, Twickenham, in the 84th year of his age, James Whitchurch, Eſq; He has bequeathed 100l. to each of the following hoſpitals and ſocieties, viz. Chriſt's, St George's, Middleſex, and Magdalen hoſpitals; to the marine ſociety; and to the ſociety for relief of ſeamen wounded in the merchant ſervice. He has alſo left 10,000l. in the three per cents, for the ſupport of blind perſons, under the direction of the managers of the Rev Mr Hetherington's donation for that purpoſe.

13. At her houſe, near Leith, Mrs Marion Cleghorn, widow of Robert Ewing, Eſq; of Craigton.

13 At Ludlow, Shropſhire, Alexander Stuart, Eſq; of Dunearn.

14. At Edinburgh, Mr David Bennet, principal clerk of the general poſt-office. He had been upwards of forty years in the office.

14. At Broughton houſe, near Edinburgh, Miſs Mannie Campbell, daughter of John Campbell, Eſq; and grand niece to the late Gen. John Earl of Crawford.

15 At Edinburgh, Mr Thomas Boyes, writer.

16. At Edinburgh, Mr John Henderſon, architect.

16. At Fracey-houſe, Devon, aged 50, Mrs Elphinſtone, widow of Capt. Elphinſtone, of his Majeſty's navy, and late Admiral of the Ruſſia fleet.

17. At London, Joſeph Edmondſon, Eſq; Moubray Herald Extraordinary at Arms, herald painter to her Majeſty, and F. A. S. author of the Britiſh Peerage, 7 vols; the Engliſh Baronetage, 2 vols; and Body of Heraldry, 2 vols folio; &c.

18. At Edinburgh, Mrs Agnes Mudie, relict of Mr James Hay of Cocklaw, writer to the ſignet.

18. At Edinburgh, Mrs Maeguffog, widow of William Maeguffog, Eſq; of Ruſco.

18. The Hon. James John Colvill, eldeſt ſon of Lord Colvill of Culroſs.

19. At Drumſeugh, the Counteſs of Moray.

19. At London, Evan Saunders, a common beggar, in the 107th year of his age, 82 of which he was blind.

19 At Epſom, Surrey, in the 104th year of her age, Mrs Sarah Buſby.

21. At London, Lawrence Sullivan, Eſq; many years chairman of the Eaſt-India company.

24. At Edinburgh, Mrs Hamilton Gordon, relict of Charles Hamilton Gordon, Eſq; Advocate.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

Feb. 4. to conſtitute Benjamin Pingo, Eſq; Rouge Dragon Purſuivant of Arms, to be York Herald of Arms, in the room of George Fletcher, Eſq; deceaſed.

4. to grant the dignity of a Baronet of the kingdom of Great Britain to John Sinclair, of Ulbſter, in the county of Caithneſs, Eſq; and the heirs-male of his body lawfully begotten; with remainders ſeverally to the firſt and every other ſon and ſons ſucceſſively of Hannah Sinclair, his eldeſt daughter, and of Janet Sinclair, another of his daughters, and their reſpective heirs-male.

13. to confer the honour of Knighthood on John Crichloe Turner, Eſq; high ſheriff of the counties of Cambridge and Huntingdon.

18. to appoint the Rev. Dr James Gilleſpie, Principal of St Mary's, or Divinity College, in the Univerſity of St Andrew's, to be one of his Majeſty's Chaplains in Ordinary in Scotland, in the room of the Rev. Dr Alexander Bryce, deceaſed.

24. to

24. to grant to the Rev. John Fiſher, Maſter of Arts, one of his Majeſty's chaplains in ordinary, the place and dignity of Canon or Prebendary of his Majeſty's Free Chapel of St George in the Caſtle of Windſor, void by the death of the Rev. Dr John Boſtock.

War-office, Feb. 4.

8th foot; Brevet Major William Potts to be Major, vice R B. Lernoult.

Office of Ordnance, Feb. 14.

Royal regiment of artillery: Col. William Martin to be Colonel Commandant, vice John Godwin, deceaſed: Lt-Col. Duncan Drummond to be Second Colonel, vice William Martin; Major Joſeph Eyre to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Duncan Drummond; and Capt Edward Williams to be Major, vice Joſeph Eyre.

Commiſſions ſigned by his Majeſty for the Army in Ireland.

15th foot: Maj. William Myers from 26th foot, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Hon. J. Stopford, reſigned.

26th foot: Capt. William Duff to be Major, vice William Myers.

From other papers.

Feb. 2. The Rev. Dr Archibald Davidſon, miniſter of Inchinan, was admitted Principal of the Univerſity of Glaſgow, in the room of Dr Leechman, deceaſed.

The Mariſchall Univerſity of Aberdeen has conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws on Mr Walter Minto, author of Reſearches into ſome parts of the Theory of the Planets, and other mathematical tracts.

Prices of Grain at Haddington, March 4.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	18s. 6d.	18s. 0d.	17s. 0d.
Bear,	15s. 0d.	14s. 0d.	13s. 0d.
Oats,	12s. 9d.	11s. 0d.	10s. 0d.
Peaſe,	13s. 0d.	12s. 0d	10s. 6d.

Edinburgh, March 13 1786. Oat-meal, 11d. Bear-meal, 8d Peaſe meal. 7d. 2f.

Abſtract of the number of patients received into and diſmiſſed from the Aberdeen Infirmary in 1786. [vol. 47 p. 104.]

In the hoſpital Jan. 1. 1785.	70	1016
Admitted that year	946	
Of whom,		
Perfectly cured	784	1016
Recovered, ſo as to follow their ordinary buſineſs	81	
Incurable after a long trial	7	
Improper, diſmiſſed at their own deſire, and deſerted	44	
Died	30	
Remaining in the hoſpital Jan. 1. 1786,	70	

Beſides the above number admitted into the hoſpital, 1227 have had the benefit of advice and medicines as out-patients.

Burials in the Grayfriars church-yard in February.

Males 33, Females 34 } 67. Decreaſed 11.

Age.	N°	Diſeaſes, &c.	N°
Under 2	14	Aged — —	8
Between 2 & 5	8	Aſtmah — —	3
5 & 10	5	Chincough —	8
10 & 20	6	Childbed — —	2
20 & 30	6	Conſumption —	14
30 & 40	5	Dropſie — —	2
40 & 50	7	Fever —	10
50 & 60	5	Meaſles — —	3
60 & 70	9	Suddenly — —	3
70 & 80	2	Smallpox — —	7
80 & 90	0	Teething —	9

FIARS for crop 1785, *per boll.*

Mid-Lothian, or Edinburghshire.

Sterling.	*L.*	*s.*	*d.*	*Sterling.*	*L.*	*s.*	*d.*
Beſt Wheat	1	0	9	Second ditto	0	8	6
Blacked ditto		18	9	Beſt Oatmeal, by weight 8 ſtone per boll.	0	14	6
Beſt Barley	0	14	0				
Blanded ditto	0	12	0	Peaſe	0	12	0
Rough Bear	0	11	0				
Beſt Oats	0	11	0				

County of Fife.

Sterling.	*L.*	*s.*	*d.*	*Sterling.*	*L.*	*s.*	*d*
Wheat	0	18	7	Meal by meaſure	0	13	0
Bear	0	10	10	Rye	0	10	0
Oats	0	10	0	Peaſe and beans	0	10	3
Meal by wt.	0	14	0	Malt	0	16	0

Commiſſariot of Glasgow.

Meal 14s. 7d. | Bear 11s. 9d. 1f.

Commiſſariot of Hamilton and Campsie.

Meal 13s. 8d. | Bear 11s. 9d.

Sum of the Quantity and Value of Linen Stamped for Sale in Scotland,

From Nov. 1. 1784, *to Nov.* 1. 1785.

Quantity 17,275,071½ yards.
Value L. 835,081 : 14 : 3½
Medium Price 11 d. 1-12th.

Leſs this year than the preceding:
Quantity 1,863,521½ yards.
Value L. 97,535 : 7 : 8

PRICES OF STOCKS, Feb. 14.

3 per cent. red. 69⅝ a ¾ a ⅝
3 per cent. conſ. 69 ¼ a ⅜
4 per cent. conſ. 88 ¼
Ann. 1778, 1779, 13⅛ a 3-16ths
5 per cent. 104⅛ a ¼
India bonds 50s. prem.
New Navy, 2 ⅛ Diſc.
Exch. Bills 15s. Prem.

Feb. 28.

3 per cent. red. 70⅛ a ¼
3 per cent. conſ. 69⅞ a ⅝ a ¾
4 per cent. conſ. 89⅛
Bank Long Ann. 20¼
Ann. 1778, 1779, 13¼ a 5-16ths
5 per cent. 104¾ a ⅝
India Bonds, 46s. Prem.